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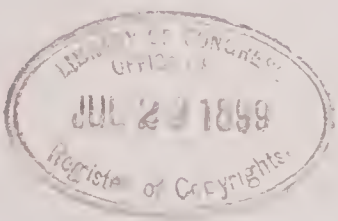
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June 9, '99.



J. S. S. Stranahan

JAMES S. T. STRANAHAN,

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.



THE term "Brooklyn's first citizen" well indicates the eminent position which James S. T. Stranahan held in public life and in the hearts of the people of the beautiful City of Churches. The same spirit of love and veneration which prompted the nation to designate Washington as the "father of his country," led to the bestowal of the first mentioned title upon Mr. Stranahan, who for more than half a century occupied a most distinguished and conspicuous place in connection with the material, moral, educational and social development of Brooklyn. His magnificent intellect, force of character, honesty and integrity won for him successes which comparatively few men could have achieved. Obstacles which would have discouraged many of even recognized forceful resources were brushed aside by him, almost as the feather by the wind, and he pressed steadily forward to the

achievement of victory. The advancement of the city bears the impress of his strong individuality. His name is associated with the most progressive development along material and political lines, and many of the most important interests of Brooklyn to-day stand as monuments to the marvelous business and executive ability of him who in the evening of life was crowned with the golden reward of former toil and the respect and honor of all with whom he was associated in the multitudinous affairs of an active career. He passed the ninetieth milestone on the journey of life, and at the close of an eminently useful and honorable career he put away the cares and responsibilities of former years and passed from the scene of his earthly triumphs as "one who wraps the draperies of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

The fact that he was descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry of Presbyterian faith may account for some of his rugged persistence and perseverance in carrying through his ideas and plans. He traced his lineage to James Stranahan, who was born in the north of Ireland, in 1699, and represented a family that spelled the name in various ways, such as Stranahan, Strachan or Strahan. The name, however, is derived from the parish of Strachan, Kincardineshire, Scotland. James Stranahan, the grandfather of him whose name introduces this memorial, emigrated to America in 1725, locating in Scituate, Rhode Island, where he became a prosperous farmer. He afterward removed to Plainfield, Connecticut, where he died in 1792, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. James Stranahan, the eldest of his sons, was a thrifty agriculturist and a Revolutionary soldier, who lived and died in Plainfield, Connecticut. Samuel, the fifth son of the family, was born in 1772, married Lynda Josselyn, and became one of the first settlers of Peterboro, Madison county, New York.

In the vicinity of that town a homestead was established, and thereon James S. T. Stranahan was born April 25, 1808. In the fields and meadows or among his father's mills he spent his early boyhood. His father died in 1816, however, and his mother soon married again, after which his time was devoted to assisting his stepfather in the development of the farm and the care of the stock through the summer months, while in the winter season he pursued his studies in the public schools of the neighborhood. On reaching the age of seventeen he assumed the responsibility of his own support. He attended an academy for several terms, after which he taught school for a season, in

order to fit himself for the duties of a civil engineer, but abandoned his plans in that direction with a view of engaging in trade with the Indians in the northwest. He visited the region of the upper lakes in 1829, but after interviews with General Lewis Cass, then Democratic governor of the territory of Michigan, and several journeys of exploration in the wilderness, abandoned the project, returned to the east and formed a partnership with a number of Albany parties for dealing in wool. In 1832 Gerrit Smith, the celebrated capitalist and philanthropist, whom he had known from the time he worked on his stepfather's farm in boyhood, induced him to go to Oneida county, New York, and found a manufacturing town upon one of the large tracts of land which Mr. Smith there owned. To build a town was a work which gave full scope to Mr. Stranahan's powers, which had as yet only three years' development from the time he had attained his majority, but he was fully equal to the task, his efforts being crowned with such success that Florence, New York, was transformed from a village with a population of a few hundred into a town of two or three thousand. While residing in Florence Mr. Stranahan was elected, in 1838, to represent his district in the state legislature, being the Whig candidate in a Democratic district, and his election therefore indicated his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him. Though a young man, he was judged a fitting compeer of the men of ability in the assembly, an unusual number of whom were gathered there, owing to the political struggle connected with the suspension of specie payments and the agitation of the sub-treasury act urged upon congress by Martin Van Buren, then president of the United States.

In 1840 Mr. Stranahan removed to Newark, New Jersey, and became largely interested in the construction of railroads. Nothing so insures the prosperity of a community and the advance of civilization as the building of steam communication, and in this regard he was an important factor in the development of the city. He was among the first who, by taking stock in payment for construction, became owners and hence controllers of the roads they built.

After four years spent in Newark, Mr. Stranahan removed to Brooklyn, and at once took a prominent position in its commercial and political circles. The city at that time had but fifty thousand people. It had a city charter only ten years old and no city hall, for its attempt to build a mammoth public building of that character had been crushed by the financial panic of 1837, and only a stone wall stood on the site of the projected building as an evidence of the former intention of the people. The majority of the population lived within walking distance of the ferries, and all business was transacted in New York. Mr. Stranahan, therefore, entered upon his career in Brooklyn at an early period in its development, and grew with its growth until his name and reputation were as far-reaching as are those of the city.

In 1848 he was elected alderman, and in 1850 was nominated for the position of mayor, but his party was in the minority and political discipline was perfect in the ranks of his opponents, while his own personal qualities were then not so widely known or so thoroughly understood as to overcome party edicts, and so he was defeated. But the canvass was the means of bringing his personality to the front, of making his sterling character and high purposes known to the voters, and he emerged from the campaign with great personal strength. This was soon proved. In 1854, when the country was intensely excited over the slavery question, he was nominated for congress, and, although he made the race in a strong Democratic district and was himself an anti-slavery man, he was triumphantly elected after a vigorous contest. In 1857, when the first metropolitan police-commission board was organized, Mr. Stranahan was appointed as a commissioner, and was one of the most active members of the board during the struggle between the new force and the old New York municipal-police force of New York, Brooklyn and Staten Island, who revolted under the leadership of Fernando Wood, then mayor. During all this time Mr. Stranahan was an earnest Republican, but never permitted politics to influence his official or personal relations. In 1864 he was made presidential elector on the Lincoln and Johnson ticket, and in 1860 and 1864 had been one of the New York delegates to the Republican national convention, both times voting for the nomination of Abraham Lincoln for the presidency. During the Rebellion he was president of the war-fund committee, an organization formed by over one hundred leading men of Brooklyn, whose patriotic sentiments gave rise to the Brooklyn Union, a paper which was in full accord with the governmental policy and upheld the hands of the president in every possible way. Its purpose was to encourage enlistments, to raise money for the soldiers and to further the efforts of the government in prosecuting the war. Mr. Stranahan's vigorous qualities, his splendid executive abilities and his unshaken confidence in the ultimate triumph of the Union cause were of untold service in promoting the efficiency of the committee. It rendered great aid to the sanitary commission, and in this direction its forces were allied with the Women's Relief Association, of which Mrs. Stranahan was president, and through the combined efforts of the two organizations, culminating in a great sanitary fair, four hundred thousand dollars in money were

paid into the sanitary fund at one time. This fair was an event of national importance, calling forth the efforts of all loyal people throughout the country, who generously contributed to the fund for the betterment of the condition of the brave boys in blue on the tented fields of battle. Subsequent to 1888, when Mr. Stranahan was elector-at-large for Benjamin Harrison and was honored by being appointed to carry the electoral vote of New York state to Washington, he took no active part in politics, although true to the principles of the Republican party.

For years, however, he was identified with the most important business and beneficial enterprises of Brooklyn, and his efforts have produced improvements in many lines that have made the City of Churches one of the most beautiful metropolitan centers of the country. Under the legislative act of 1860 he became president of the Brooklyn Park Commission and remained in office until 1882. Under his direction the plans of Prospect Park were matured and carried into execution. He was also the originator of the splendid system of boulevards, the Ocean Parkway and Eastern Parkway, which has provided in Brooklyn a system of drives unsurpassed by any in the world. The concourse at Coney Island also resulted from his instrumentality. The Brooklyn Eagle, a paper politically opposed to Mr. Stranahan, in commenting upon his retirement from a service in which he had been so long engaged, said: "Prospect Park is preëminently his work. But for his foresight and perseverance we should not now be in possession of that noble resort; or if possessed of it, the purchase money would have been double the amount paid under Mr. Stranahan. Coney Island may also be pointed to as bearing the mark of his wise activity. Before any railroad or hotel man had thought of discounting its future, the park commissioner saw the possibilities of the place. To his mind the natural boundary of Brooklyn on the southwestern side was the Atlantic ocean, and he took steps to secure to the city the advantage of an attractive path from the beach to the center of population. By projecting the boulevard and the concourse he may be said to have called the Coney Island of to-day into existence,—an existence which has already been worth a great deal more to Brooklyn than the cost of all the public works in which he had a hand and which must go on increasing in value. The truth is, that Mr. Stranahan is one of the very few men who have creative genius. In the not remote future the question will be asked by intelligent writers, 'Who were the real architects of Brooklyn? Who were the men who lifted her out of the cowpaths of village advance and put her on the broad track of metropolitan importance?' When that question is advanced the name named with greatest honor will be that of James S. T. Stranahan." Another daily paper said: "Mr. Stranahan is the Baron Haussman of Brooklyn."

The enterprises which Mr. Stranahan conducted in his own behalf have been voluminous, extensive and very profitable. For more than forty years he was a director of the Union Ferry Company, the gigantic concern which daily transports thousands of passengers to and from the different cities, and under his direction was also developed the great Atlantic dock improvement. Brooklyn had no warehouse on its water-front and the region which is now the Atlantic docks was shallow water at the edge of the bay. For a man coming to the metropolis at that time looking for investments with a view to making his fortune and position in the community to have seized the idea that those shallows were the strategic point commanding the future commerce of New York bay argues uncommon foresight. To see it so clearly as to put his own money into it indicates courage and patience, and to induce other men to put their money into it shows strong persuasive powers, all of them being faculties which strongly marked Mr. Stranahan's career in Brooklyn. The Atlantic dock system is the most perfect and systematic to be found in the world. Speaking of this dock before the Hamilton Club in 1888, Mr. Stranahan said: "The construction of this dock engaged my attention, and for a series of years chiefly constituted my business. I had associates with me, and though we were all hopeful as to the future, we soon discovered that in order to realize our expectations we must wait for that future. Not one of those originally engaged with me in the undertaking lived to see the time when the Atlantic Dock Company made a dividend to its stockholders. The first dividend check was drawn in 1870, twenty-six years after I embarked in the work. That was a pretty severe tax on one's patience and hope. The facts are, the Atlantic dock is now a completed undertaking. Two hundred acres of land reclaimed from the tidewater and added to the habitable area of this city; a resident population of fifteen thousand persons upon the land thus reclaimed; docks two miles in length and warehouses built thereon with a frontage of one mile; the annual storage of a vast commerce brought to this great metropolitan center; an assessed valuation of property that pays one two-hundredth part of the taxes of this city,—such is the spectacle presented to the eye of thought." Mr. Stranahan was also connected with the Brooklyn Bridge Company from its organization, was one of the first subscribers to its stock; was a member of the board of directors of the New York Bridge Company, and served continuously as trustee from the

time the work came under the control of the two cities until June 8, 1885. At the meeting of the trustees on that date he occupied the chair as president of the board, and at that time his term expired. He also served continuously as a member of the executive committee, and upon nearly all of the other important committees appointed during construction.

Mr. Stranahan was a man of limitless capacity in business and was connected with some of the most gigantic concerns of the city,—enterprises which he carried forward to successful completion and gathered therefrom a handsome fortune. He was gifted with remarkable foresight and wonderful executive ability, was a man of broad, liberal views, of genial, sympathetic nature, and with a keen sense of humor. Of medium stature, of imposing appearance, dignified, gentlemanly, he wore his years with courtly grace and evidenced no diminution of his wonderful intellectual powers even though ninety years of active association with the world of business were vouchsafed him.

Mr. Stranahan was twice married. His first wife was Mariamne Fitch, a native of Westmoreland, Oneida county, New York, and a daughter of Ebenezer R. Fitch. They were married in 1837 and resided for three years in Florence, whence they removed to Newark, New Jersey, where their two children were born. In 1844 they came to Brooklyn, and Mrs. Stranahan died, in Manchester, Vermont, in August, 1866. Mr. Stranahan afterward married Miss Clara C. Harrison, a native of Massachusetts. Before her marriage she was one of the leaders in educational circles in Brooklyn, and for a number of years was principal of a private seminary for the higher education of young ladies, which had an enrollment of two hundred pupils, and fourteen teachers and professors in its various departments. Mrs. Stranahan is a most cultured and accomplished lady, of marked literary ability, her education having had the directing influence of both those great educators, Mary Lyon and Emma Willard. She is a graduate of Mrs. Emma Willard's far-famed seminary, of Troy, New York, the school in which higher mathematics, including mathematical astronomy and trigonometry as an introduction thereto, were pursued by young ladies. Mrs. Willard also instructed her pupils, in the face of strong opposition, in the five volumes of Dugald Stewart's philosophical writings. Mrs. Stranahan also took a very active part in the great Sanitary Fair as a member of the committee on art and the committee on the post-office and Drum Beat, the latter a paper issued daily during the continuance of the fair, Dr. R. S. Storrs being its editor-in-chief. From the post-office many hundred letters of greatly varied character were distributed. A volume of autograph letters, chiefly from statesmen conspicuous at that time, was collected and bound through the agency of Mrs. Stranahan, and brought some hundreds of dollars into the treasury of the fair.

Possessing herself an ideal education, and fully conscious of its great value in life, Mrs. Stranahan has always taken a deep and active interest in educational affairs. She is a founder and trustee of Barnard College, and vice-president of the alumni association of her *alma mater*, Troy Female Seminary. She is an ardent advocate of the higher education for women, and in that direction is always ready to respond to the call for any aid which her influence, her presence or her pen can give.

Owing to her descent from Revolutionary sires, Mrs. Stranahan takes a most loyal interest in all that pertains to keeping alive the memories of the heroes who in 1776, and during the entire conflict of which the events of that year were the center, fought the good fight which won freedom for the American colonies, knit them into a nation and gave the United States a place among the powers of the earth. As might be expected, she became prominent as soon as she became a member of the grand order of Daughters of the American Revolution, and was elected one of its vice-presidents general. As a presiding officer she showed rare tact and ability, and her decisions on matters of procedure and on technicalities of parliamentary law were marked by a high standard of correctness and justice. A capital tribute to her excellence in this regard was rendered by the New York Independent, when, reporting the proceedings of the third annual congress of the "Daughters," held in Washington, D. C., in 1894, it said: "The real work of the society was done at the business meetings, presided over by Mrs. Stranahan, of Brooklyn, who is a model for that office in her knowledge of parliamentary rulings, her quickness and tact in making her points, and in always keeping the meeting well in hand. One likes to see a woman like Mrs. Stranahan, so capable, good-tempered and business-like, and one also likes to see an audience who appreciate this and who will come under her sway."

Mrs. Stranahan has also won a name for herself in literature. She has written much on one subject or another, but most of her articles have been in relation to matters of passing interest, and so interest in them has ceased after the purpose has been accomplished. It is impossible to estimate the extent of her influence in this way, because the measure of such influence is difficult to obtain; but she has written one work which is certain to keep her memory green long after she has passed away. It is *A History of French Painting*, and is regarded in art circles as a masterpiece, her ability



as a critic and her art of getting at the very kernel of a biography being tempered throughout by her womanly charity and her love and appreciation of all search for artistic beauty. The work received the highest praise in artistic and literary circles in this country and in Europe, one English quarterly alone giving it thirty-six pages of review. One critic—to quote but one—said: “Were the work called ‘*The History of French Painting*’ it would abundantly support the title. As it is, it occupies the rank of a classic on the subject.” It is safe to say that it will ever remain one of the standard works on the subject, and be regarded as indispensable to future investigators.

When, in 1891, the women of the United States were called upon to lend their aid in making the World's Columbian Exposition, at Chicago, a success commensurate with the event it celebrated and its importance as a presentation of the development of the United States in manufactures, literature, industry, science and art, Mrs. Stranahan was among those women appointed by the New York state commissioners to act on the woman's board, and she at once took an active part in organizing the woman's board of managers of the state of New York. Subsequently she was chosen vice-president of the board, her brilliant intellect, broad knowledge of affairs and rare executive ability well qualifying her for that exalted position. In Mrs. Stranahan we find an exemplification of all that is good, true and noble in womanhood. When, at a meeting of the woman's board, the question was brought up as to whether or not the fair should be opened on Sundays, Mrs. Stranahan was the only member of the board who raised her voice in opposition and voted “No.” Since her marriage she has given her influence in support of the charities of the city, and has been for twenty-two years president of the Kings county visiting committee of the State Charities Aid Society, and for twenty-seven years has been corresponding secretary of the Society for the Aid of Friendless Women and Children. Of a most benevolent and generous nature, with a heart whose sympathies are as broad as the race, she carries forward her noble work, directed by a splendid intellect and superior executive ability, until the effect of her efforts is immeasurable.

Within the past few years Mr. Stranahan's name has held a peculiar position in Brooklyn. He was not only the “favorite son,” but the father of the community. Away beyond party politics, retired from the affairs of active life, yet keenly interested in all that took place, he was not only beloved in the city which had so long been his home, but was venerated. He had long been, by common consent, accorded the title of “Brooklyn's first citizen.” For many years prior to his death there was no living man in Brooklyn who had such a deep hold on the hearts of the people; possibly in the future no other man will ever evoke so much personal regard. This sentiment found practical expression in 1890, when a movement was inaugurated to erect a statue of the popular and veteran statesman, guide, philosopher and friend. In a speech at a meeting which was called to inaugurate the project, the Rev. Dr. Storrs quoted the following words from the dedication of Mrs. Stranahan's History of French Painting: “To my husband, J. S. T. Stranahan, this work is affectionately inscribed, in recognition of the rare qualities of his service to others, through his ready perception of the ties of kinship, citizenship, humanity.” Dr. Storrs continued, saying: “This dedication expresses my own feeling. I count it an honor and a pleasure of my life to have been here so many years associated on terms of confidence and fellowship with one to whom these can be written.”

The idea was endorsed at once, and although no one was permitted to subscribe more than one hundred dollars, the necessary amount was soon collected and the commission for the work given to Frederick MacMonnies, the famous Brooklyn sculptor, now resident in Paris, who not only had marked ability but also the very necessary quality of civic pride, which spurred his genius to its highest effort, and he produced a statue which when it was seen in public was voted by critics and press to be the most beautiful example of artistic sculpture in America. The statue was erected on one of the most beautiful sites in Prospect Park,—no place could be more appropriate,—and when it was unveiled, in 1891, the heart of Brooklyn outflowed with the praise of all classes for its “grand old man.” The event was unique, for when before was ever the statue of a private citizen erected in his home city during his own lifetime?

The record of James S. T. Stranahan would be incomplete did we not speak briefly of the characteristics of the man. To thousands throughout Brooklyn and the state who were acquainted with his character, he stood for all that is desirable in a finely developed manhood. If his word could be secured, it was as good as any bond that was ever solemnized by signature and seal; if his friendship could be won,—and worth could always win it,—it was as loyal as truth is to itself; and if social order or social advancement needed a support that never bent or weakened, it could find it in him. It is doubtful if he ever weighed an act in his life, public or private, in the scale of policy. Through all his busy life he was the soul of honor, counting honesty and integrity as the best capital that a man can possess. One little incident will serve to show the kindness of his great heart. As

before stated, Prospect Park was the result of his labors, his creative genius, and his public spirit, yet he never criticized adversely any changes that were made there, no matter how contrary to his cherished ideals, and never visited the park office but once, and that was in 1897, when, out of the goodness of his heart, and when he was hardly able to walk, he came to ask the commissioners to give a place to a gardener whom he had employed when laying out the park. His one particular delight was driving up before the reviewing stand on each Sunday-school anniversary day, where he could sit and watch the inspiring spectacle of thousands of little ones, attired in bright garments, with their banners waving in air, under sunny skies, marching down the long meadow which was the creation of his genius.

Reviewing Mr. Stranahan's career, however, with its public details all before us, we can easily see that among the multiplicity of enterprises and interests in which he had been active, one point will stand out prominent for all time,—the consolidation of New York and Brooklyn into one municipality. Of that movement, now happily consummated, he was the first advocate, and his clear vision into the future marked him as a statesman. He saw the idea which he first advanced fit itself slowly but surely in the public mind, and slowly but surely win for itself adherents. In most circles it was at first sneered and laughed at, and the machinery of party politics also helped to retard its forward movement. But Mr. Stranahan believed it was bound to come, and kept its furtherance steadily in view, while most people thought that the East river was an effectual barrier to all schemes of consolidation. But the completion of the Brooklyn bridge, in which he had taken such an active part, was to him more than the opening of a new thoroughfare; it was the first of the bonds that was destined to unite the two cities into one. In the course of a memorable speech at the New York chamber of commerce, on the 8th of May, 1887, in honor of the completion of the bridge, Mr. Stranahan said, referring to his favorite topic: "I do not know, Mr. Chairman, whether you have heard of it or not; yet I may as well say that the people of Brooklyn have an idea in regard to this bridge which is sure to reveal itself at no distant period. Brooklyn, as you are aware, is by the East river isolated from the mainland. The people of that city hope that the bridge will remove this isolation and put them in direct railroad communication not only with New York city but with all parts of the country. This will greatly serve their convenience and promote their prosperity. New York certainly will not object, and will not be the loser. If a bridge over the Harlem river connects New York with the mainland, why should not a bridge over the East river perform a similar service in behalf of Brooklyn and Long Island?"

"Mr. Chairman, Brooklyn has another idea, and has long had it, the accomplishment of which she hopes will be facilitated by this bridge. The Thames flows through the heart of London, and the Seine through the heart of Paris; but in neither case have you two cities. It is London on both sides of the Thames, and Paris on both sides of the Seine. The corporate unity is not dissevered by either river. Here, however, we have New York city and our Brooklyn, with the East river rolling between them. They are distinct cities, in immediate contiguity with each other, and separated by a water highway. Is this distinctness of municipality any advantage to either? I think not. Would the consolidation of these two cities into one municipal corporation be any harm to either? I think not. The people are the same people, have the same manners and customs, and have common commercial and social interests, and one municipal government would serve them quite as well as two, and at far less cost. I know of no reason why this distinctness should be continued, other than the fact that it exists, and I confess I see no good reason why it should exist at all. I may be mistaken, but I think that the public sentiment of Brooklyn would cordially welcome a consolidation of the two cities under the title of New York. The East river bridge, now superadded to the ferry system, will, as Brooklyn hopes, so affiliate the two in heart and sympathy and so facilitate their mutual intercourse that both, without any special courtship on either side, will alike ask the legislature of the state to enact the ceremony of a municipal marriage, and if this shall be done, then I venture to predict that each will be so happy and so well content with the other that neither will ever seek a divorce."

It was many years afterward,—January 1, 1898,—when Mr. Stranahan's lifelong ideal became an accomplished fact, and not only Brooklyn and New York but Staten Island and a part of the county of Queens became merged in one city. Amid the rejoicings of a prosperous and happy community at that time it is safe to say the thoughts of thousands turned to that quiet homestead at Union and Clinton streets, where sat, full of devout happiness, the veteran who of all other men had done the most to bring about the municipal wedding. With the union, too, it is fair to say, "Brooklyn's first citizen" became the first citizen of Greater New York.

He passed away in Saratoga, September 3, 1898, and his remains were brought back to

Brooklyn. The funeral cortege was the first that ever took its way to the cemetery through Prospect Park,—the imperishable monument to his memory,—and all that was mortal of James S. T. Stranahan was laid to rest in beautiful Greenwood. An upright business man, a peaceful and public-spirited citizen, an incorruptible patriot, a sagacious statesman, and, above all, God's noblest handiwork,—an honest man,—he was an ornament to the commonwealth and an honor to his race.

“Cui Pudor, et Justitiæ Soror
Incorrupta Fides, nudaque Veritas.
Quando ullum invenient parem?”

ABRAHAM COLES,

SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY.



NATIVE DEER AT DEERHURST

ABRAHAM COLES, the widely known poet, scholar, philanthropist and eminent physician and surgeon, was born in the old homestead of his family at Scotch Plains, New Jersey, December 26, 1813, and died, during a visit to California, at the Hotel del Monte, near Monterey, May 3, 1891. He was of Scotch and Dutch descent, his ancestors being among the earliest settlers of New York and New Jersey. His great-grandfather, William Coles, had, with his wife, established himself, in early colonial days, at Scotch Plains, and there Dr. Coles' grandfather, James Coles, was born in 1744. The latter married, in 1768, Elizabeth Frazee. Their son Dennis, the father of Dr. Coles, was born at Scotch Plains, in 1778, and died there in 1844.

He was a man of rare integrity and excellent judgment, a lover of polite

literature, a polished speaker, a member of the state legislature, a fine reader and an accomplished writer. He acquired the printers' art, with Shepard Kollock, and in 1803 established at Newburgh, New York, a newspaper, the Recorder of the Times, which he conducted for three years,—a literary and financial success, which, also, under another name, it continued to be as late as 1876. He married, in 1802, Katrina Van Deurzen, daughter of one of the prominent citizens of Newburgh, and a descendant of the famous Dutch dominie, Everardus Bogardus, and his noted wife, Anneke Jans. At the solicitation of his parents, Dennis Coles sold out his Newburgh business (1806) and with his wife returned to Scotch Plains, where his son was born, as stated above.

Dr. Abraham Coles was educated by his parents until the age of twelve, when he entered the dry-goods store of a relative in New York city, with whom he remained five years. Here he acquired a thorough business education, while at the same time devoting his spare time to reading and study. At the age of seventeen he withdrew from this business to accept a position as teacher of Latin and mathematics in the academy of the Rev. Lewis Bond, at Plainfield, New Jersey. Subsequently, for six months, he studied law in the office of Hon. Joseph C. Hornblower, of Newark, and although the law was not to prove his chosen vocation he, during this time, acquired a taste and solid foundation for legal study, which he never abandoned and which in after years was invaluable to him in his association with eminent jurists. After reading Blackstone's and Kent's Commentaries with care, and in the meantime consulting his natural tastes and inclinations, which drew him strongly toward medicine, he chose the latter, and, first attending a course of lectures at the University and College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York city, he entered the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at which he graduated in 1835. The following year he opened an office, as physician and surgeon, in Newark, New Jersey. In 1842 he married Caroline E. Ackerman, daughter of Jonathan



Norman's

C. and Maria S. Ackerman, of New Brunswick, New Jersey. She died in 1845, leaving one son and one daughter.

Dr. Coles soon won a high position in his profession, becoming especially distinguished in surgical cases, to which he was frequently called in consultation. In 1848 he went abroad, visiting England and France, and making a special study of their hospitals and schools of medicine. He was in Paris during the stormy days—May and June, 1848,—of the dictatorship of General Cavaignac and the so-called French republic that followed, and, as correspondent of the Newark Daily Advertiser, described the bloody scenes of which he was an eye-witness. Returning to Newark he at once resumed practice. At this time he was regarded as the most accomplished practitioner in Newark, eminent alike for his professional and literary acquirements. In 1853 and 1854 he was again abroad, traveling extensively, studying the continental languages and adding largely to his store of medical knowledge by contact with the most eminent physicians and surgeons of Europe. At Florence he made the acquaintance of the Brownings, Hiram Powers and others then and subsequently distinguished for their attainments in literature and art. In September, 1854, he took passage for home, on the Arctic, but after leaving Liverpool he had his ticket made good for the following steamer, and then disembarked at Queenstown. The Arctic proceeded on her voyage, was run into by a small French steamer, called the Vesta, off Cape Race, in a dense fog, and sunk, with a loss of three hundred and twenty-two lives.

But the life, character and celebrity of Dr. Coles, eminent as he was as physician and surgeon, are chiefly connected with his literary and scholarly attainments, his published writings, and particularly his religious hymns and translations, which have given him a world-wide reputation. He had early in his professional career been a contributor to various periodicals, but it was not until "Wednesday evening, March 17, 1847," that his first translation of the "Dies Iræ" appeared in the Newark Daily Advertiser, from a copy of which, after an interval of more than fifty years, we now quote:

In the following version of that fine old specimen of Latin rhyme, the *Dies Iræ*, the translator is fully conscious of not having done justice to the sounding cadence, exquisite rhythm, barbaric strength and beautiful simplicity of the original. This powerful poem, the composition of a monk who lived in the twelfth century, while it has commanded the admiration of critics generally, upon many eminent characters would seem to have exercised a wonderful influence. It is stated of Dr. Johnson that he could never read the verse commencing, "*Quærens me sedisti lassus*" without bursting into tears. It was a great favorite likewise with Sir Walter Scott. His "*Lay of the Last Minstrel*" contains a partial translation, and we are told by his kinsmen and biographer that in his last hours of life and reason he was overheard repeating portions of the Latin original. The Earl of Roscommon likewise uttered in the moment when he expired, with great energy and devotion, two lines of his own version of the seventeenth stanza—

"My God, my Father and my Friend,
Do not forsake me in my end."

Goethe introduces snatches of it in his "*Faust*." To these names might be added many others who have borne similar testimony to its extraordinary merit. This is farther shown by the numerous translations which have been made into various languages. In Germany, particularly, there has been a surprising number,—some executed by her first poets. With them care has generally been taken to preserve the trochaic ending and double rhyme of the Latin. The almost universal neglect of this in English versions is a great defect, which can only be accounted for by the difficulties involved in the retention. A translation which appeared some years ago in the New York Evangelist (October, 1841,) forms the only known exception and was highly applauded as an exemplification of success where everybody had failed. But doubtless it was the arduousness of the task that so far conciliated criticism as to lead to the most indulgent blindness to material faults. It were presumption, however, in the present translator to think that he has succeeded much better in overcoming the difficulties referred to. It is well known that this hymn has been set to music of the sublimest excellence, forming, as it does, the subject of Mozart's "*Requiem*," the last and best of his immortal compositions, the excitement of preparing which, it is said, hastened his death.

TRANSLATION.

Day of wrath, that day of burning,	Book where every act's recorded,
All shall melt, to ashes turning,	All events all time afforded,
As foretold by seers discerning.	Shall be brought and dooms awarded.
O what fear shall it engender	When shall sit the Judge unerring,
When the Judge shall come in splendor,	He'll unfold all here occurring,
Strict to mark and just to render.	No just vengeance then deferring.
Trumpet scattering sounds of wonder,	What shall I say that time pending?
Rending sepulchers asunder,	Ask what Advocate's befriending
Shall resistless summons thunder.	When the just man needs defending?
All aghast then Death shall shiver	King almighty and all knowing,
And great Nature's frame shall quiver	Grace to sinners freely showing,
When the graves their dead deliver.	Save me, Fount of good o'erflowing.

Think, Oh Jesus, for what reason
Thou endur'dst earth's spite and treason,
Nor me lose in that dread season.

Seeking me Thy worn feet hasted,
On the cross Thy soul death tasted,
Let such labor not be wasted.

Righteous Judge of retribution,
Grant me perfect absolution
Ere that day of execution.

Culprit like, I, heart all broken,
On my cheek shame's crimson token,
Plead the pardoning word be spoken.

Thou who Mary gav'st remission,
Heard'st the dying Thief's petition,
Cheered'st with hope my lost condition.

Though my prayers do nothing merit,
What is needful, Thou confer it,
Lest I endless fire inherit.

Mid the sheep a place decide me,
And from goats on left divide me,
Standing on the right beside Thee.

When th' accurs'd away are driven,
To eternal burnings given,
Call me with the bless'd to Heav'n.

I beseech Thee, prostrate lying,
Heart as ashes, contrite, sighing,
Care for me when I am dying.

On that awful day of wailing,
Human destinies unveiling,
When man, rising, stands before Thee,
Spare the culprit, God of Glory. A. C.

This translation immediately attracted the attention and admiration of scholars throughout the literary world. Harriet Beecher Stowe introduced a portion of it into her "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and Henry Ward Beecher had it set to music for his Plymouth Collection of Hymns.

In 1859 Dr. Coles published, with some slight alterations, this translation, together with twelve other versions which he had made since 1847. This volume, entitled "Dies Iræ in Thirteen Original Versions" (sixth edition, 1892), appeared in the Appletons' best style of binding, and contained an introduction, history of the hymn, music, and photographic illustrations of the Last Judgment, by Michael Angelo, Rubens, Cornelius, and Ary Scheffer. The book met with immediate success.

James Russell Lowell, in the *Atlantic Monthly*, said: "Dr. Coles has made, we think, the most successful attempt at an English translation of the hymn that we have ever seen. He has done so well that we hope he will try his hand on some of the other Latin hymns. By rendering them in their own metres, and with as large a transfusion of their spirit as characterizes his present attempt, he will be doing a real service to the lovers of that kind of religious poetry in which neither the religion nor poetry is left out. He has shown that he knows the worth of faithfulness."



DEERHURST

Richard Grant White, in a critical review, spoke of the work as "one of great interest, and an admirable tribute from American scholarship and poetic taste to the supreme nobility of the original poem. Dr. Coles," he says, "has shown a fine appreciation of the spirit and rhythmic movement of the hymn, as well as unusual command of language and rhyme; and we much doubt whether any translation of the 'Dies Iræ,' better than the first of the thirteen, will ever be produced in English, except perhaps by himself. * * *

As to the translation of the hymn, it is perhaps the most difficult task that could be undertaken. To render 'Faust' or the 'Songs of Egmont' into fitting English numbers would be easy in comparison."

James W. Alexander, D. D., and William R. Williams, D. D., scholars whose critical acumen and literary ability were universally recognized, pronounced the first two "the best of English versions in double rhyme," while the Rev. Samuel Irenæus Prime, D. D., in the *New York Observer*, said: "We are not sure but that the last version, which is in the same measure as Crashaw's, but in our judgment far superior, will please the general taste most of all." The *Christian (Quarterly) Review* said: "Dr. Coles' first translation stands, we believe, not only unsurpassed but unequalled in

the English language." The Rt. Rev. John Williams, D. D., LL. D., bishop of the diocese of Connecticut, wrote: "Your first version is decidedly the best one with which I am acquainted."

William Cullen Bryant, in the *Evening Post*, wrote: "There are few versions that will bear to be compared with these; we are surprised that they are all so well done." Rev. Dr. James McCosh, D. D., LL. D., president of the College of New Jersey, Princeton, wrote to Dr. Coles: "I wonder how you could have drawn out thirteen translations of the 'Dies Iræ,' all in the spirit and manner of the original, and yet so different. I thought each the best as I read it."

"If not all of equal excellence," said George Ripley, in the *New York Tribune*, "it is hard to decide as to their respective merits, so admirably do they embody the tone and sentiments of the original, in vigorous and expressive verse. The essays which precede and follow the hymn exhibit the learning and the taste of the translator in a most favorable light, and show that an antiquary and a poet have not been lost in the study of science and the practice of a laborious profession."

Lady Jane Franklin, wife of Sir John Franklin, while on her visit to this country, met Dr. Coles at the home of a mutual friend. Congeniality of tastes, as well as the interest taken by Dr. Coles in the search for her husband, ripened the acquaintanceship into that of mutual regard and friendship. Among the Doctor's letters we find the following, in Lady Franklin's handwriting:

NEW YORK, October 22, 1860.

DR. ABRAHAM COLES:

Dear Sir:—I cannot deny myself the pleasure of thanking you once more for your most beautiful little book, the "Dies Iræ in Thirteen Original Versions," which I value not only for its intrinsic merit, but as an expression of your very kind feelings toward me. Believe me,

Gratefully and truly yours,

JANE FRANKLIN.

In 1865 he published his first translation of the passion hymn, "Stabat Mater Dolorosa," which, like "Dies Iræ," has been made the theme of some of the most celebrated musical compositions. It was set to music in the sixteenth century by Palestrina, and has inspired the compositions of Haydn, Bellini, Rossini, and others. The prima donna, Clara Louise Kellogg, in Rossini's "Stabat Mater," used Dr. Coles' translation. Dr. Philip Schaff, alluding to some eighty German and several English translations that had been made up to that time said: "Dr. Coles has best succeeded in a faithful rendering of the Mater Dolorosa. His admirable English version carefully preserves the measure of the original." In 1866 appeared his "Old Gems in New Settings" (third edition, 1891), in which many treasured old Latin hymns, including "De Contemptu Mundi" and "Veni Sancti Spiritus," are skillfully and gracefully translated. In the following year he published his translation of "Stabat Mater Speciosa" (second edition, 1891).

In 1866, before the centennial meeting of the New Jersey State Medical Society, held in Rutgers College, New Brunswick, Dr. Abraham Coles, then president, read his poem entitled "The Microcosm," which was published with the proceedings of the society. This poem was subsequently (in 1881) published in a volume containing "The Microcosm (fifth edition, 1891), National Lyrics, and Miscellaneous Poems," together with three additional versions of "Dies Iræ." The volume was favorably criticised both in this country and Europe. The Hon. Justin McCarthy, of England, wrote: "I am surprised to see, in looking through your volume, 'The Microcosm, and other Poems,' that you have been able to add three more versions to those you have already made of that wonderful Latin hymn, 'Dies Iræ.' Certainly it is the most difficult to translate. I like your last version especially." "The idea of 'The Microcosm,'" said John G. Whittier, "is novel and daring, but it is worked out with great skill and delicacy." In lines of easy and flowing verse the author sets forth with a completeness certainly remarkable, and with great power and beauty, the incomparable marvels of structure and functions of the human body.

As an example, we quote a few lines from the section on "Muscular Dynamics."

Bundles of fleshy fibres without end,
Along the bony Skeleton extend
In thousand-fold directions from fixed points
To act their several parts upon the Joints;
Adjustments nice of means to ends we trace,
With each dynamic filament in place;
But where's the hand that grasps the million reins,
Directs and guides them, quickens or restrains?
See the musician, at his fingers' call,
All sweet sounds scatter, fast as rain drops fall;
With flying touch, he weaves the web of song,
Rhythmic as rapid, intricate as long.
Whence this precision, delicacy, and ease?

And where's the Master that defines the keys?
The many-jointed Spine, with link and lock
To make it flexile while secure from shock,
Is pierced throughout, in order to contain
The downward prolongation of the brain;
From which, by double roots, the Nerves arise—
One Feeling gives, one Motive Power supplies;
In opposite directions, side by side,
With mighty swiftmess there two currents glide—
Winged, head and heel, the Mercuries of Sense
Mount to the regions of Intelligence;
Instant as light, the nuncios of the throne
Command the Muscles that command the Bone.

In Europe one of the most enthusiastic admirers of "The Microcosm" was the late Dr. Theodor Billroth, professor of surgery in Vienna. The New York Herald says: "The poems that follow 'The Microcosm' are mainly religious, and, for simplicity, feeling and, withal, great scholarship, have been equaled by no hymn writers of this country." "The flavor of 'The Microcosm,'" said the New York Times, "is most quaint, suggesting on the religious side George Herbert, and on the materialistic side the elder Darwin: Some of the hymns for children are beautiful in their simplicity and truth."

EVEN ME.

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings,
Thou canst perfect praise to Thee!
Wilt thou not accept the worship,
Humbly rendered, Lord, by me?

Even me.

Things that to the wise are hidden,
Children's eyes are made to see;
Thee to know is life eternal,
O reveal Thyself to me!

Even me.

Thou hast given me power of loving,
Give me power of serving Thee.

Is there not some humble service
Which can now be done by me?

Even me.

Hands and feet should ne'er grow weary
When employed, dear Lord, for Thee!
Tongue should never cease the telling
Of Thy grace who diedst for me.

Even me.

Infant mouths need not be silent,
Stammering lips can publish Thee,
Sound Thy name o'er land and ocean,
Be it sounded, Lord, by me!

Even me.

THE CHILDREN'S TE DEUM.

We praise, we magnify, O Lord,
As little children can,
That wondrous love which brought Thee down
To die for sinful man.

While here on earth Thou didst not frown
And bid them to depart,
When mothers brought their children near,
But took them to Thy heart.

Encouraged by Thy voice and smile,
We toward Thy bosom press;
O, lay Thy hands upon our heads,
And mercifully bless!

Help us to sing, dear Lord! we feel
That silence would be wrong;
Now every bird, with rapture stirred,
Is praising Thee in song.

The Critic (New York), after referring to "many beautiful and stately passages" in "The Microcosm," says: "Following it is to be found some of the best devotional and patriotic poetry that has been written in this country."

The following is from his poem "A Sabbath at Niagara."

Forevermore, from thee, Niagara!
Religious cataract! Most Holy Fane!
A service and a symphony go up
Into the ear of God. 'Tis Sabbath morn.
My soul, refreshed and full of comfort, hears
Thy welcome call to worship. All night long
A murmur, like the memory of a sound,
Has filled my sleep and made my dreams devout.
It was the deep, unintermittent roll
Of thy eternal anthem, pealing still
Upon the slumbering and muffled sense,
Thence echoing in the soul's mysterious depths
With soft reverberations. How the earth
Trembles with hallelujahs, loud as break
From banded Seraphim and Cherubim
Singing before the Throne, while God vouchsafes
Vision and audience to prostrate Heaven!
My soul, that else were mute, transported finds
In you, O inarticulate Harmonies!
Expression for unutterable thoughts,
Surpassing the impertinence of words.
For that the petty artifice of speech
Cannot pronounce th' Unpronounceable,
Nor meet the infinite demands of praise
Before descending Godhead, lo! she makes
Of this immense significance of sound,

Sublime appropriation, chanting it anew,
As her "Te Deum," and sweet Hymn of Laud.



DRAWING ROOM AT DEERHURST

THE LAND OF THE FREE.

(Air, Star Spangled Banner.)

We hail the return of the day of thy birth,
 Fair Columbia, washed by the waves of two oceans!
 Where men, from the farthest dominions of Earth,
 Rear altars to Freedom, and pay their devotions;
 Where our fathers in fight nobly strove for the Right,
 Struck down their fierce foemen or put them to flight,
 Through the long lapse of ages, that so there might be
 An asylum for all in the Land of the Free.

Behold, from each zone under Heaven, they come!
 And haughtiest nations, that once far outshone thee,
 Now paled by thy lustre, lie prostrate and dumb,
 And render due homage, and no more disown thee.
 All the isles for thee wait, while that early and late,
 Not a wind ever blows but wafts hither rich freight,
 And the swift sailing ships, that bring over the sea
 Th' oppressed of all lands to the Land of the Free.
 July 4, 1853.

As entranced I look down the long vista of years,
 And behold thine existence to ages extended,
 What a scene, O my Country, of wonder appears!
 How kindling the prospect, surpassing and splendid!
 Each lone mountain and glen, and waste wilderness then,
 I see covered with cities, and swarming with men,
 And miraculous Art working marvels for thee
 To lift higher thy greatness, thou Land of the Free!

From our borders expel all oppression and wrong,
 Oh! Thou, who didst plant us and make us a Nation!
 In the strength of Thine arm make us evermore strong;
 On our gates inscribe Praise, on our walls write Salvation!
 May Thyself be our light, from Thy heavenly height
 Ever flashing new splendors and chasing our night,
 That united and happy we ever may be
 To the end of all time, still the Land of the Free!

MY NATIVE LAND.

(Air, America.)

O beautiful and grand,
 My own, my Native Land.
 Of thee I boast;
 Great Empire of the West,
 The dearest and the best,
 Made up of all the rest,
 I love thee most.

Thou crown of all the Past,
 Time's noblest and the last,
 Supremely fair!
 Brought up at Freedom's knee,
 Sweet Child of Liberty!
 Of all, from sea to sea,
 Th' undoubted heir.

I honor thee, because
 Of just and equal laws,
 These make thee dear:
 Not for thy mines of gold,
 Not for thy wealth untold,
 Not that thy sons are bold,
 Do I revere.

God of our fathers! bless,
 Exalt in righteousness,
 This Land of ours!
 Be Right our lofty aim,
 Our title and our claim
 To high and higher fame
 Among the Powers.

In 1874 Dr. Coles published "The Evangel" (pages 400, second edition, 1891). "The purpose of this volume," said George Ripley, in the New York Tribune, "would be usually regarded as beyond the scope of poetic composition. It aims to reproduce the scenes of the Gospel history in verse, with a strict adherence to the sacred narrative, and no greater degree of imaginative coloring than would serve to present the facts in the most brilliant and impressive light. But the subject is one with which the author cherishes so profound a sympathy as in some sense to justify the boldness of the attempt. The Oriental cast of his mind allures him to the haunts of sacred song, and produces a vital communion with the spirit of Hebrew poetry. Had he lived in the days of Isaiah or Jeremiah, he might have been one of the bards who sought inspiration at 'Siloa's brook, that flowed fast by the oracle of God.'"

The Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., LL. D., of Princeton, referring to the work, said: "I admire the skill which 'The Evangel' displays in investing with rainbow hues the simple narrations of the Gospels. All, however, who have read Dr. Coles' versions of the 'Dies Iræ' and other Latin hymns must be prepared to receive any new productions from his pen with high expectations. In these days, when even the clerical office seems in many cases insufficient to protect from the present fashionable form of skepticism, it is a great satisfaction to see a man of science and a scholar adhering so faithfully to the simple Gospel."

Henry W. Longfellow, in a cordial note to Dr. Coles, remarks: "As your work is narrative and mine dramatic, he must be a very captious critic who should venture to suggest any imitation."

"Dr. Coles," says John G. Whittier, "is a born hymn writer. His 'All the Days' and 'Ever with Thee' are immortal songs. It is better to have written them than the stateliest of epics."

ALL THE DAYS.

(Tune, "Kinney Street.")

From Thee, begetting sure conviction,
 Sound out, O risen Lord, always,
 Those faithful words of valediction,
 "Lo! I am with you all the days."

(Refrain.) All the days, all the days,
 "Lo! I am with you all the days."

What things shall happen on the morrow,
 Thou kindly hidest from our gaze;
 But tellest us in joy or sorrow,
 "Lo! I am with you all the days."

When round our head the tempest rages,
 And sink our feet in miry ways,
 Thy voice comes floating down the ages,
 "Lo! I am with you all the days."

(Refrain.) All the days, all the days,
 "Lo! I am with you all the days."

O Thou who art our life and meetness,
 Not death shall daunt us nor amaze,
 Hearing those words of power and sweetness,
 "Lo! I am with you all the days."

EVER WITH THEE.

(Tune, "Bethany.")

Ever, my Lord, with Thee,
 Ever with Thee!
 Through all eternity
 Thy face to see!
 I count this heaven, to be
 Ever, my Lord, with Thee,
 Ever with Thee.

Fair is Jerusalem,
 All of pure gold,
 Garnished with many a gem
 Of worth untold:
 I only ask to be
 Ever, my Lord, with Thee,
 Ever with Thee!

River of Life there flows
 As crystal clear;
 The Tree of Life there grows
 For healing near:
 But this crowns all, to be
 Ever, my Lord, with Thee,
 Ever with Thee!

No curse is there, no night,
 No grief, no fear;
 Thy smile fills heaven with light,
 Dries every tear:
 What rapture, there to be
 Ever, my Lord, with Thee,
 Ever with Thee!

In 1884 the Appletons issued Dr. Coles' poem, "The Light of the World," as a single volume, also bound together with a second edition of "The Evangel" under the general title "The Life and Teachings of our Lord in Verse, being a complete harmonized exposition of the four Gospels with original notes, etc."

Among the many foreign letters received by Dr. Coles, in which reference is made to this work, we find one from the Right Hon. William E. Gladstone, M. P., written from 10 Downing street, Whitehall, London, and one from Stephen Gladstone, written from Hawarden Rectory, Chester, England. The Rev. Alexander McLaren, D. D., writing from Manchester, England, says: "I congratulate you upon having accomplished with success a most difficult undertaking, and on having been able to present the ever inexhaustible life in a form so new and original. I do not know whether I have been most struck by the careful and fine exegetical study, or the graceful versification of your work. I trust it may be useful, not only in attracting the people, which George Herbert thought could be caught with a song, when they would run from a sermon, but may also help lovers of the sermon to see its subject in a new garb."

The Rev. Horatius Bonar, D. D., of Edinburgh, wrote: "I am struck with your command of language, and your skill in clothing the simplicities of history with the elegance of poetry. Your 'Life of our Lord' is no ordinary volume, and your notes are of a very high order indeed,—admirably written, and full of philosophical thought and scriptural research."

THE NATIVITY.

In that fair region—fertile as of yore,
 Watered of Heaven; its valleys covered o'er
 With corn; with flocks its pastures; scene in truth
 Of that sweet Idyl called the Book of Ruth,
 Where David, son of Jesse, tending sheep,
 In deep glen seated, or on mountain steep,
 Sung to his harp in morn or evening calm,
 Many a holy pastoral and psalm—
 As certain shepherds, simple and devout,
 Under the starry heavens were lying out,
 Watching their flocks, while one lifts up the chant,

"The Lord my shepherd is, I shall not want."
 Or, as with upturned face, he ravished sees
 Belted Orion and the Pleiades,
 Singing, "When I the heavens consider, made
 And fashioned by Thy fingers, thick inlaid
 With stars and suns in numbers numberless,
 Lord, what is man that Thou shouldst come to bless?"—
 An Angel of the Lord beside them stood:
 The glory of the Lord in mighty flood
 Shone round about them luminous and clear,
 And all the shepherds feared with a great fear.

"Fear not," the Angel said, "good news I bear,
Cause of great joy to people everywhere.
In David's city is a Saviour born,
Who is the Christ the Lord, this happy morn.
And this the sign to you: Ye shall not find
Prepared a stately edifice, designed
For His reception: this great Potentate
And Prince of Heaven and Earth, assumes no state;
Comes with no retinue; conceals and shrouds
His proper glory under veils and clouds
Of lowliness, in stable of an inn

His Showing and Epiphany begin.
There look and you shall find in manger laid
The Infant Christ in swaddling clothes arrayed."

Then suddenly were present, height o'er height,
A countless multitude of the sons of light,
In mighty chorus singing loud and clear,
Charming celestial silences to hear:
"Glory to God there in the highest heaven!
Peace here on earth, good will to men forgiven!"
—The Evangel, pages 59-61.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

* * * * * He stood
On a raised plain 'mid a vast multitude,
Composed of His disciples—and all them
Who from Judea, and Jerusalem,
And from the shores of Tyre and Sidon came
To hear Him and be healed—His blessed name
Now on all lips, because there was no case
Too desperate for His relieving grace;
The virtue that went out of Him was such
That men were healed with one believing touch.

All hushed, He sat, and lifting up his eyes
On His disciples, taught them in this wise.
Happy the poor in spirit, who
their deep demerit own,
In them my Kingdom I set up;
with them I share my throne.
Happy are they, who mourn for sin
with smitings on the breast,
The Comforter shall comfort them
in ways He knoweth best.
Happy the meek, who patient bear,
unconscious of their worth,
They shall inherit seats of power,
and dominate the earth.
Happy who hunger and who thirst
for righteousness complete,

Their longings shall fulfillments have
and satisfactions sweet.
Happy the merciful, who know
to pity and forgive,
Their mercy shall obtain at last,
and evermore shall live.
Happy the pure in heart, whose feet
with holiness are shod,
They shall run up the shining way
and see the face of God.
Happy the friends of peace, who heal
the wounds by discord given,
The God of Heaven shall hold them dear
and call them sons of heaven.
Happy are they who suffer for
adherence to the right,
They shall be kings and priests to God
in realms of heavenly light.
Happy are ye when men revile
and falsely you accuse,
Be very glad, for so of old
did they the prophets use.
Happy are ye, when for My sake,
men persecute and hate,
Exult! for your reward in heaven
is made thereby more great.
—The Light of the World, pages 76-77.

The late Hon. Frederick W. Ricord, in his memorial address before the New Jersey Historical Society (May 19, 1892), said: "Dr. Coles was a man who possessed and enjoyed a religion founded upon the teachings of the Old and New Testaments. It was a religion which pervaded all the recesses of his heart, which gave a temper to all his thoughts, which entered into all the transactions of his life,—a religion of the soul, a religion of the closet, a religion of which he cared not whether the world was cognizant or not, never seeking to thrust it upon others, or to display it as a beautiful, well fitting garment. He recognized God as a being to be worshiped, to be loved and to be obeyed; and he accorded to his neighbor the same love that he had for himself. He was, however, a man of strong convictions, and in religious matters those convictions were the result of a thorough investigation by a mind well equipped, and influenced in its labors only by a desire to find out the truth. So ardent and thorough a student of the Scriptures as he was, reading them in the languages in which they earliest appeared, he was fully able to give a reason for the faith that was in him, which was strictly evangelical."

In refutation of certain statements and specious arguments published with the intent of proving that the gallons of wine made by Christ for free distribution at Cana were intoxicating and that He thus sanctioned with divine authority the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage, the Newark Daily Advertiser of Saturday, November 27, 1897, in its leading editorial, said:

We print to-day a compendium of facts relating to the wine Christ made and drank, taken from 'The Life and Teachings of Our Lord,' by the late Dr. Abraham Coles, a work that has become a standard authority in this country and in Europe. * * * * *

Mahomet forbade wine, and Christ made it. The difference between Christ and Mahomet was that of divine knowledge and human ignorance. Mahomet mistook a part for the whole, and with his axe of prohibition struck at a branch, supposing it to be the trunk. The Omniscient Christ was guilty of no such error. He knew that the bane was manifold, and that to single out wine for special prohibition was folly.

The truth is, Christ forbade nothing. Not but ten thousand things are forbidden,—everything hurtful is so. Nature forbids, and nature is final. Why reenact nature? reaffirm creation? deal in dittoes and deuteronomies? repeat laws established? settle what was never unsettled? Christ left nature as he found it, inviolate, unrepealed. His walking on the water did not abolish gravitation. Fact was fact the same as before; arsenic was arsenic; alcohol was alcohol. So far as nature forbade these they were forbidden; so far as nature permitted them they were permitted. Christ could go no farther than nature and be the Lord of nature. Consequently Christ could not have forbidden wine absolutely and been God.

Wine is many and different. There is a kind of wine which is not, and another which is, intoxicating; that is, has a toxic or poisoning power, for that is the meaning of the term. Was the wine Christ made the latter? Christ's character is the answer. If that says no, it is no; for the wine is to be judged by Christ, not Christ by the wine. Christ we know; the wine we do not know. That which best befitted Him to make, He undoubtedly made. * * * * Taking our stand, therefore, on the immovable rock of Christ's character, we risk nothing in saying that the wine of miracle answered to the wine of nature, and was not intoxicating. No counter proof can equal the force of that drawn from His attributes. It is an indecency and a calumny to impute to Christ conduct which requires apology. One thing is certain, He did not make fermented wine, for there was no time for fermentation.

In opposition to those who deny (for what is not denied by somebody?) that unfermented grape-juice is wine at all, we maintain that not only is it wine, but wine preëminently, the original, the true, as being nearest to the parent vine, and overflowing with the abundance of its life. Every step of that process called fermentation, whereby innocent sugar is converted into alcohol, is of the nature of a removal and eloignement. Wine and vine are etymologically the same. The Greeks called the vine "the mother of wine" (oinometer). Properly "oinos" is only then the child of the vine when vinous and vital it represents "the wine of the cluster," "the pure blood of the grape." Death follows life, and corruption death, and there results a deadly something which men call wine, but wrongly, for it is no longer vinous. The vine disowns it. It is a corpse, not a living thing. Alcohol is not wine, but an atrocious usurper of its name and rights.

Christ made wine. He was maker, not manufacturer. The key-note to the miracle is creation. This alone renders it worthy and intelligible. Christ was no Demiurge, but God. Not inferior or different. "The Word was with God, and the Word was God." "All things were made by Him." It was fitting that He should in the outset make this appear; and so He did. In a miraculous moment He did what in His ordinary working in nature He takes four months to do. Such was His debut—an epiphany of Godhead; a demonstration to the whole universe that He was "over all, God blessed forever." "This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory"—giving, in His own Divine Person, by a new genesis, as "in the beginning" of the world, needed practical proof and illustration that God is; and that He is one, not two nor many; that He created matter; that nature is from Him; that though He exists and operates in nature He is not nature, but a power apart from it and above it, acting upon it from without in omnipotent freedom of will, and directing it to beneficent ends; that the God who feeds us is identical with the God who saves us,—thus sweeping away all the hoary diabolisms of disbelief, bearing the names of atheism, dualism, polytheism, materialism, pantheism and fatalism.

It is assumed, for this view necessitates it, that the wine of miracle was the same as the wine of nature, the wine of the cluster, holy and life-giving, the type of all nourishment, and the type of salvation. The wine of art is not this. It represents evil rather than good. It is better fitted to typify destruction than creation. It is less a making than an unmaking. Alcohol is unmade sugar. Men brand it poison. The Bible furnishes for our warning many examples of the evil following its use.

Thus far we have limited ourselves to asserting that Christ did not make intoxicating wine; whether he ever drank it is another question. Here, too, His character is everything,—far more than doubtful philology. Anything He drank must, we know, have been a safe and un hurtful beverage, wherein there was no "excess." We are not permitted to suppose that the Saviour from sin was an example of sin; that He who taught self-denial practiced self-indulgence. Rather must we believe that every meal He ate was a lesson of temperance. He, knowing what is in man, the liability of the best to fall, ceased not to warn against a vain self-confidence and a false security. "Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat; but I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not." * * * * "Pray that ye enter not into temptation." That the wine of communion was azymous wine, new wine, sweet and sacred, made the festal token of a heavenly renewal of divine fellowship, is proved by His own words: "I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new (kainon) with you in my Father's Kingdom." * * * *

It is stated that all points in dispute have their final answer in the settlement of the one question,—“Does ‘wine,’ standing alone, mean, as is claimed, only and always the juice of the grape fermented, and never the juice of the grape unfermented; and was the same made and drunk by Christ and used by Him as one of the elements of the Last Supper?” The pivot, evidently, on which everything turns, is the words “only and always,” so that if it can be shown, in a single instance, that the word “wine,” uncoupled with “new,” is clearly used anywhere in the Bible in the sense of “new wine” or “must,” the learning which denies it goes for nothing, and the whole argument based on that erroneous assumption falls to the ground.

“Must,” as defined in all the dictionaries, is “new wine.” Beyond all question oinos neos, in Greek, answers to vinum mustum in Latin, and new wine in English, and all refer to the unfermented juice of the grape. In Luther's translation, wherever oinos neos occurs in the New Testament, it is invariably rendered must. Must is from the Latin mustus, new, fresh, with vinum understood, and the Imperial Dictionary defines it to be “new wine, wine pressed from the grape, but not fermented.” In similar terms it is defined in all the languages of Europe. To say that new wine is not wine, is as absurd as to say that a new bottle is not a bottle. A thing is known by what it is called. It is mere trifling to say that what has the perpetual sanction of the highest literary and scientific authorities is unwarranted and incorrect. It is true that it is not wine in the sense of fermented wine, but it is called wine nevertheless; and my purpose is to produce undoubted examples from the New Testament of oinos being used in the place and in the sense of oinos neos—i. e., must.

In Matthew ix, 17, we read: “Neither do men put new wine (oinon neon) into old bottles, else the bottles (“old”

omitted) break, and the wine (oinos, alone, with neos omitted) runneth out." In the parallel passage in Mark ii, 22, there are the same omissions in the second clause of the verse. In Luke, it is "new wine" in both places, thus confirming the identity of the two. If oinos neos here means, as is admitted it does, must, then oinos inevitably means must likewise, seeing the two indisputably refer to one and the same thing. When neos (new) was no longer needed for definition it was dropped and only the general or generic term "wine," was retained. It was in obedience to the same law of language that the defining adjectives "old" and "new" applied to bottles, were dropped after they had served their purpose. One only needs to omit the specific and defining words to see how pointless and meaningless all this becomes: "Neither do men put wine into bottles; else the bottles break and the wine runneth out. But they put wine into bottles and both are preserved."

What now is wanted to the completeness and absoluteness of the proof? Here we have the Holy Ghost for a witness, and a divine example of *usus loquendi*, clearly showing that oinos is properly used to denote the unfermented grape juice without the qualifying epithet neos, as well as with it. The proof is certain, contemporaneous, positive, inspired and infallible; not to be gainsaid or questioned, repeated by two evangelists and fortified by a third—proof drawn directly from the Holy Gospels themselves and Christ's own words. We might properly stop here without adding a single word. The proof adduced is of the simplest kind, needing for its full appreciation no learning beyond the ability to spell. Yet so conclusive that I cannot doubt that it would be accepted as such by any court in Christendom. I for my part would not ask to have the title to my own house and grounds supported by stronger proof.

Reference has already been made to that familiar principle which governs speech in the use of generic and specific terms, of which here we have an excellent example. New wine is expressly named, because the similitude pointed at is based on properties which are peculiar to unfermented wine. There are three necessary factors in the case: First, A fermentable liquor (which excludes, of course, any liquor that has undergone fermentation already); second, the possible presence of a ferment liable to be found in old bottles (i. e., bottles previously used), whether made of skins or glass or earthenware, for this, by exciting fermentation in a fermentable liquor, would inevitably give rise to the liberation of a large quantity of gas, which, if confined, would operate with rending and destructive violence; third, the closure of the bottle, for unless closed the gas would escape as soon as generated and cause no damage. But as the whole procedure avowedly looked to the prevention of fermentation, and thereby the preservation of the liquor in its unfermented state, the strict closure of the bottle, so as to effectually exclude the atmospheric air, formed a necessary part of it. Such was the Jewish method employed for preserving must from one vintage to another, which differs in no essential respect from that described by Latin writers—e. g., Cato, the elder, who lived two centuries before Christ, and Columella, who was contemporary.

One cannot fail to be struck how very remarkably the two methods, the Roman and the Jewish, tally. Thus another important point is established, that it was customary in the time of our Lord to permanently preserve the unfermented juice of the grape. Why preserved, unless to be drunk? It is clear, moreover, that this process was so common as to be known to everybody, otherwise Christ would not have said, virtually, "No man" is so incredibly stupid or so ignorant (seeing the veriest child ought to know better) as to put "new wine," a fermentable liquor, in immediate contact with a ferment if he wishes to preserve it. The structure of the whole similitude goes to prove that the thing entered into the daily domestic life of the people, living in a vine-growing country, and that the name of wine was constantly applied to it.

Nobody who is acquainted with the high value of grapes and grape juice as food (grape juice being in this respect little, if at all, inferior to milk itself, which chemically it closely resembles) will wonder that pains should have been taken to preserve and store up a means of subsistence so luxurious and so cheap.

The above article attracted profound and widespread interest, resulting in extra demands for the paper, orders therefor ranging from one hundred to fifteen hundred copies.

The late Dr. Ezra M. Hunt and others eminent in their profession were, before graduation, students of medicine in the office of Dr. Coles, who was particular to impress upon the memory of his hearers the danger of prescribing for use in the nursery, hospital and in general practice preparations containing alcohol or opium, affirming that, although they produce effects that differ, they agree in this, that if used habitually they alike tend by a law as constant as gravity itself to establish a tyranny compared with which chains, racks, dungeons and whatever else go to make up the material apparatus of the most cruel despotism are as nothing.

Dr. Coles was not a prohibitionist in its political sense, but as a Christian, physician, chemist and scientist he taught and practiced total abstinence. In the light of history, the power, and the consequent responsibility, of arresting and preventing the spread of the plague of intemperance would seem to rest, primarily, with the members of the medical, and, secondarily, with the members of the clerical, profession, inasmuch as without their aid other philanthropists have generally, if not always, failed in their efforts to effect any permanent abatement of the ravages of the disease, centuries of evidence bearing witness to the fact that argument is of little or no avail with those who can quote their physician or pastor as their authority for non-abstinence.

In 1888 Dr. Coles put forth a volume of more than three hundred and fifty pages, entitled "A New Rendering of the Hebrew Psalms into English Verse, with notes, critical, historical and biographical, including an historical sketch of the French, English and Scotch metrical versions."

The New York Tribune, in a lengthy critical review of the work, said: "Dr. Coles' name on the title-page is a sufficient indication of the excellence and thoroughness of the work done. Indeed, Dr. Coles has done much more than produce a fresh, vigorous and harmonious version of the Psalms,

though this was alone well worth doing. His full and scholarly notes on the early versions of Clement Marot, Sternhold and Hopkins and others, his sketches of eminent persons connected in various ways with particular psalms, his literary and bibliographical information, together impart a value and interest to this work which should insure an extensive circulation for it. Very much of the historical and other matter thus brought within the reach of the public is inaccessible to such as have not means of access to public libraries. In his version of the Psalms he has wisely preserved the rhythmical swing and the terse language which distinguish the early renderings."

The Rev. Frederic W. Farrar, D. D., F. R. S., chaplain in ordinary to the queen, in a letter to Dr. Coles, said: "The task of versifying the Psalms was too much, even for Milton, but you have attempted it with seriousness and with as much success as seems to be possible. I was much interested in your introduction."

S. W. Kershaw, F. T. A., the librarian of the Lambeth Palace Library, London, England, also writes to Dr. Coles: "I am greatly interested in the introduction, in reading about the psalms of Clement Marot, and in the allusion to the Huguenots."

On the scroll in the hand of the beautiful symbolical figure of Poetry, by J. Q. A. Ward, in the Library of Congress, at Washington, the artist has memorialized Dr. Coles' version of Psalm xix., which is as follows:

The rolling skies with lips of flame
Their Maker's power and skill proclaim
Day speaks to day, and night to night
Shows knowledge writ in beams of light,
And though no voice, no spoken word
Can by the outward ear be heard,
The witness of a traveling sound
Reverberates the world around.

In the bright east with gold enriched
He for the sun a tent has pitched,
That, like a bridegroom after rest,
Comes from his chamber richly drest,
An athlete strong and full of grace,
And glad to run the heavenly race,—
Completes his round with tireless feet,
And naught is hidden from his heat.

But, Nature's book sums not the whole;
God's perfect law converts the soul;
His sure, unerring word supplies
The means to make the simple wise;

His precepts are divinely right,
An inspiration and delight;
His pure commandment makes all clear,
Clean and enduring in His fear.

The judgments of the Lord are true,
And righteous wholly, through and through;
More to be coveted than gold,
Of higher worth a thousand fold;
More sweet than sweetest honey far,
Th' unfoldings of their sweetness are;
They warn Thy servant, and they guard;
In keeping them there's great reward.

Who can his errors understand?
My secret faults are as the sand:
From these me cleanse, make pure within,
And keep me from presumptuous sin;
Lest sin me rule and fetter fast,
And I unpardoned die at last.
My words and meditation be
O Lord, my Rock, approved of Thee.

During his travels abroad, Dr. Coles had been greatly impressed with the private and public parks of Europe, and as early as 1862 inaugurated a unique project of landscape gardening upon seventeen acres of his ancestral farm, at Scotch Plains, New Jersey, converting it into a park of rare beauty, adorned with imported statuary and every attainable choice variety of tree and shrub calculated to edify as well as interest its many visitors, young and old. It was named "Deerhurst," from its herd of deer. Here he built his country home of brick, stone, foreign and native woods, memorable alike for its architectural beauty, its large, well filled library, its "easy-chair," its works of art, and as the rendezvous of distinguished guests. Here the Doctor spent the last thirty years of his life, with his son and daughter as constant associates, the latter gracefully presiding over their father's establishment, among literary and professional friends.

While on a visit with his son and daughter to California, Dr. Coles died suddenly, May 3, 1891, from heart complication resulting from an attack of la grippe. At the time of his decease his life and works were extensively commented upon by the press, secular and religious. Appreciatory letters were received by his family from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, England; from the Royal Society, London; from the Academie des Sciences, Paris; from the home of Tennyson, Isle of Wight; from the executive mansion, Washington, D. C., etc., etc. The funeral services were held in Newark, New Jersey,—the private services at the home of his married life, on Market street, and the public services in the Peddie Memorial church, its pastor, the Rev. Dr. William W. Boyd, presiding. The Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, by reason of the serious illness of his son, was prevented from preaching the funeral sermon. An address, by Rev. Charles F. Deems, D. D., of New York, was preceded by prayer by the Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry, and the singing of Dr. Coles' hymns, "Ever with Thee," and "All

the Days." An address, by George Dana Boardman, D. D., was followed by the singing of Dr. Coles' translation of St. Bernard of Clairvaux's hymn, "Jesu Dulcis Memoria."

The memory of Jesus' name
Is past expression sweet;
At each dear mention, hearts aflame
With quicker pulses beat.
But sweet, above all sweetest things
Creation can afford,
That sweetness which His presence brings,
The vision of the Lord.
Sweeter than His dear Name is nought;
None, worthier of laud,

Was ever sung, or heard, or thought,
Than Jesus, Son of God.
Thou hope to those of contrite heart!
To those who ask, how kind!
To those who seek how good Thou art!
But what to those who find?
No heart is able to conceive,
Nor tongue nor pen express;
Who tries it only can believe
How choice that blessedness!

The New Jersey Historical Society attended in a body. James Russell Lowell, in a sympathetic note, one of the last he wrote, said: "I regret very much I cannot share in the sad function of pallbearer, but my health will not permit it." The pallbearers were: Vice-Chancellor Abram V. Van Fleet, Judge David A. Depue, ex-Chancellor Theodore Runyon, Hon. Amzi Dodd, Hon. Thomas N. McCarter, Hon. Cortlandt Parker, Hon. A. Q. Keasbey, Hon. Frederick W. Ricord, Noah Brooks, Alexander H. Ritchie, Spencer Goble, James W. Schoch, Wm. Rankin, Charles Kyte, Edmund C. Stedman, Dr. Ezra M. Hunt, Dr. A. W. Rogers, Dr. S. H. Pennington, Dr. B. L. Dodd, Dr. J. C. Young and Dr. T. H. Tomlinson. His body was laid to rest by the side of that of his wife, in Willow Grove cemetery, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

"Dr. Coles' style," says Ezra M. Hunt, M. D., Sc. D., LL. D., "has individuality as much as that of Samuel Johnson or Thomas Carlyle. One certainly sees how thoughts sublime find expression in terse and stately sentences, and how words are chosen, such as come out of the depth of inspiration and genius.

There is not conformity to the style of any favorite author, or to the modes of thought of any favorite logician, but a forging of weighty words wrought out from the depth of quiet inner feelings and conceptions." "Dr. Coles' researches," says Edmund C. Stedman, "made so lovingly and conscientiously in the special field of his poetic scholarship, have given him a distinct and most enviable position among American authors. We of the younger sort learn a lesson of reverent humility from the pure enthusiasm with which he approaches and handles his noble themes. The 'tone' of all his works is perfect. He is so thoroughly in sympathy with his subjects that the lay reader instantly shares his feeling; and there is a kind of white light pervading the whole prose and verse which at any time tranquilizes and purifies the mind."

Noah Brooks, LL. D., author and editor, said: "Dr. Coles, although playful and mirthful in some phases of his disposition, was never trivial, and the most of his work which he has left us is an indication of the seriousness, even solemnity, with which he regarded human existence, its necessities, its responsibilities and its future. He had no time to devote any part of his commanding talents to daintiness or superficialities. 'Christ and His Cross are all my theme' was evidently his maxim in life. His poetry was suffused with love and admiration of Christ's character and attributes, and he never saw man without beholding in him the image of the Master."

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, speaking of Dr. Coles, says: "I have always considered it a great privilege to enjoy the friendship of so pure and lofty a spirit,—a man who seemed to breathe holiness as his native atmosphere, and to carry its influences into his daily life." As regards his writings, he says: "There was no line which, dying, he could have wished to blot, and there was no line which the purest of God's angels, looking over his shoulder, would not have looked upon approvingly. * * * His memory will long be cherished as one of our truest and sweetest singers."



LIBRARY AT DEERHURST

In addition to his published works, Dr. Coles left, at his death, in manuscript, translations of the whole of Bernard of Clairvaux's "Address to the Various Members of Christ's Body Hanging on the Cross;" the whole of Hildebert's "Address to the Three Persons of the Most Holy Trinity;" selections from the Greek and Latin classics, and various writings on literary, medical and scientific subjects.

The titles of Dr. Coles were: A. M., from Rutgers College; Ph. D., from Lewisburg (now Bucknell) University, Pennsylvania; and LL. D., conferred in 1871, by the College of New Jersey, at Princeton.

"In the presence of several thousand people, an heroic bronze bust of the late Dr. Abraham Coles, by John Quincy Adams Ward, with its valuable and unique pedestal," says the New York Herald, "was formally unveiled in the city of Newark, New Jersey, July 5, 1897. In deference to Mr. Ward's correct, classical taste, a bust of Dr. Coles was decided upon in preference to a full-length statue. The base of the bust represents two large folio volumes, bearing the titles of the published works of Dr. Coles. These rest upon the capstone of the pedestal, consisting of a monolith from the Mount of Olives, which, in turn, rests on one from Jerusalem, beneath which are two from Nazareth of Galilee, resting on two stones from Bethlehem of Judea.

"The stones are highly polished on three sides, and are very beautiful. This is especially true of the monolith from Solomon's quarry, under Jerusalem, believed to be like unto those used in the construction of the Temple, and to which Christ's attention was called by one of His disciples, as He went out of the Temple on His way to the Mount of Olives. (Mark xiii., 1.) The fourth side, or back of each stone, has, for geological reasons, been left rough, as it came from the hands of the Judean or Galilean workmen.

"The foundation stone is a huge boulder of about seven tons' weight, brought from Plymouth, Massachusetts, the homeland of the Pilgrim Fathers; combined with this is a portion of one of the monoliths of Cheops, the great pyramid of Egypt. The memorial is surrounded by monoliths of Quincy, Massachusetts, granite, each fourteen feet long, bolted into corner stone posts, quarried not far from Mount Tabor, nigh unto Tiberias and the sea of Galilee.

"Cast in solid bronze on the front of the pedestal is a copy of Dr. Coles' well known national song of praise, 'The Rock of Ages,' while riveted to Plymouth rock is a solid bronze tablet containing an oft-repeated extract from a treatise by Dr. Coles on law in its relation to Christianity.

"The song inscribed on the bronze tablet is as follows:

THE ROCK OF AGES.

(Isaiah xxvi., 4.)

A National Song of Praise.

Let us to Jehovah raise
Glad and grateful songs of praise!
Let the people, with one voice,
In the Lord their God rejoice!
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

He, across untraversed seas,
Guided first the Genoese,
Here prepared a dwelling-place
For a freedom-loving race;
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

Filled the land the red man trod
With the worshipers of God;
When Oppression forged the chain
Nerved their hands to rend in twain.
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

Gave them courage to declare
What to do and what to dare;
Made them victors over wrong
In the battle with the strong.
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

'Midst the terror of the flight,
Kept them steadfast in the right;
Taught their Statesmen how to plan
To conserve the Rights of Man:
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

Needful skill and wisdom lent
To establish Government;
Laid foundations resting still
On the granite of His will:
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

Wiped the scandal and the sin
From the color of the skin:
Now o'er all, from sea to sea,
Floats the Banner of the Free;
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

Praise the Lord for freedom won
And the Gospel of His Son;
Praise the Lord, His name adore,
All ye people, ever more!
For His mercy standeth fast,
And from age to age doth last.

ABRAHAM COLES, July 4, 1876.

"The tablet on the Plymouth rock reads as follows: 'The State, although it does not formulate its faith, is distinctively Christian. Christianity, general, tolerant Christianity, is a part of the law of the land. Reverence for law is indissolubly interwoven with reverence for God. The State accepts the D calogue, and builds upon it. As right presupposes a standard, it assumes that this is such a standard, divinely given and accepted by all Christendom; that it underlies all civil society, is the foundation of the foundation, is lower than all and higher than all; commends itself to reason, speaks with authority to the conscience; vindicates itself in all government, giving it stability and exalting it in righteousness.—Abraham Coles, Memorial Volume, p. xxxvi.'"

The stones of Palestine were secured through the agency of the Rev. Edwin T. Wallace, A. M., our consul at Jerusalem. The foundation bed is composed of Palestine, Egyptian and Newark broken stone, bound together with Egyptian cement, taken from the Pyramid of Cheops, mixed with American cement. Imbedded beneath the stones are a copy of the Bible; a complete list of the passengers of the Mayflower, with a sketch of their lives, from the Boston Transcript; the Declaration of Independence, with the signers thereof; the constitution of the United States of America; a list of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution; the new constitution and list of members of the New Jersey Historical Society; list of the members of the American Medical Association; all the published works of Dr. Abraham Coles; some water taken from the Dead Sea by Dr. Coles; a stone ornament from C sar's palace at Rome, and other objects of local, state and national interest. Mindful of the services rendered the state by the late Dr. Abraham Coles, Dr. J. A. Coles, in a letter, dated June 16th, to the Hon. John W. Griggs, governor of New Jersey, had offered to give the bronze and its pedestal to the state, provided it could be located at Newark.

The Governor, in a friendly reply, and at a subsequent personal interview, explained to Dr. Coles, that, if given to the state, the memorial would, like the Doctor's recent gift of the famous painting of "The Good Samaritan," by Daniel Huntington, have to be located at Trenton, in order that the state might have the care and custody of the same, which it would not have if placed in the city of Newark. It being, therefore, left to Dr. Coles to choose between Trenton and Newark for the location of his gift, he decided in favor of his native city.

"That the unveiling might occur on July 5th, the Newark board of works," says the New York Tribune, "held a special meeting on June 22d, to consider the matter. The letter written by Dr. J. Ackerman Coles to Mayor Seymour, proffering the bronze bust of the late Dr. Abraham Coles, by J. Q. A. Ward, and its pedestal, to the city of Newark, was read, as was the mayor's communication on the subject. Commissioner Van Dyne then offered a resolution that the gift be accepted, and that Dr. Coles be authorized to place the same in Washington Park. The resolution was unanimously adopted."

The 4th of July occurring on Sunday, twenty thousand copies of a little book, consisting of patriotic songs, by the late Dr. Abraham Coles, set to music, were previously printed and given to the school children throughout the city; these were used in the Sunday-schools and churches on July 4th, and on the occasion of the unveiling of the bronze.

"On the afternoon of July 5th, Mayor Seymour presiding, the exercises in Washington Park were begun," says the Newark Daily Advertiser, "by the band playing and the large assemblage singing Dr. Coles' national hymn, 'My Native Land,' the music being under the direction of John C. Day, of St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal church. Letters were received from President and Mrs. William McKinley, executive mansion, Washington, D. C.; from Vice-President Garret A. Hobart, president of the United States senate; from Governor John W. Griggs, of New Jersey; from Bishop John H. Vincent, chancellor of Chautauqua University, and from others prominent in political and literary circles."

After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry, the large American flag surrounding the bronze bust and its pedestal was unfurled by President William A. Gay, of the board of education, revealing, amid hearty cheers, the benignant and classical features of the late Dr. Abraham Coles.

Dr. Jonathan Ackerman Coles, the donor, then made the address of presentation. "In recognition and appreciation," said Dr. Coles, "of the bond of fellowship that existed between the people of Newark and my father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles, on account of his active efforts in the promotion of the physical, religious, educational and scientific development of this city, it is with civic pride and pleasure I now present to your Honor the pedestal and bronze just unveiled by the president of the board of education,—an historic memorial different and distinctive from that possessed by any other city or nation, and, in editorial language, 'in harmony with the life career of the physician and scholar it commemorates.'"

The statue was formally accepted on behalf of the city by Mayor James M. Seymour. The Mayor said:

On behalf of the people of this city it gives me great pleasure to accept from our respected fellow citizen, Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, this fine memorial of that distinguished gentleman, Dr. Abraham Coles. Nothing could be more appropriate on this spot, opposite our new free public library, than this bust.

Dr. Coles was one of America's greatest scholars. His cultured mind roamed through many fields and gave to the world some of its choicest treasures in literature, poetry and art. He was a scholar, a statesman and a physician. He found time in his busy life to do and know many things, and do and know each better than most men know one. When on yonder plot of ground our new building shall have been erected and stored with the learning of all lands, there will stand in proximity an invitation and an object lesson to the youth of our city,—yonder the offer of intellectual wealth; here a monument to its attainment; there the seeds of knowledge; here the emblem of its fruition.

Dr. Coles spent the greater part of his life in Newark. Here were his friends, of whom I am proud to have been one, his home and his family. His books and writings are known and read over all the world, but here we knew the pleasant, courteous, kind-hearted gentleman. His personality is still so fresh and strong in my remembrance that in offering this verbal testimony to his fame I cannot forget that, like many other great men in all ages, he was greatest in meekness, charity and kindness of heart.

It is eminently fitting that this memorial should be surrounded by and mounted upon these tokens indicative of the bent of his mind. His predilections from his youth were toward religion, and whether engaged in the relief of his fellow men, through the medium of medicine or surgery, penning those beautiful lines "Rock of Ages," or delving among the dead tongues of bygone days, it is easy to find in all his work a predominating desire to serve, as best he knew how, his God.

On behalf of the city of Newark I accept this bust, and though it cannot last as long as the memory of him whom it memorializes, let us hope that while it stands here in this public park it will have a widespread influence upon our young men, and incite them to emulate Dr. Coles' useful, studious, earnest life.

In accepting the statue on behalf of the board of works, President Stainsby said:

There is little that I need say at this time. It is a pleasure to commend both the filial and public spirit which prompted this donor. The men of means of Newark have not hitherto permitted their public spirit to take shape for the beautification of the city. With good streets and elaborate parks should come beautifying statuary, and all that speaks for culture and pride in our public men and the perpetuation of objects of interest in our city.

In this park now stand two monuments: one speaks for the foundry and the mechanic, the foundation of this city's strength; the other speaks of the professional man and the man of literature, made possible by our material greatness. The foundation stone will recall to all passers the sterling worth and fixity of principles of the Puritan fathers, and the superstructure bearing the bust will bring to our minds the religious in man, and both will be found typified in the life and character of Dr. Coles.

Mr. Stainsby was followed by the Rev. Dr. A. H. Tuttle, who delivered a review of the works of "Abraham Coles, the Physician-Poet." Dr. Tuttle said:

Dr. Abraham Coles is called the physician-poet, not because he is the only one of his profession who has put great thoughts into immortal verse, but because of a single work in which he has sung, with genuine poetic genius, of the organs and functions of the human body.

"Man, the Microcosm," is a perilous theme for a poet. It awakens the scientific rather than the poetic faculty. Nothing of the kind had appeared before in our speech. Armstrong's "The Art of Preserving Health," published over one hundred and fifty years ago, can hardly be called an exception. Only one with the daring of Lucretius and the genius of Pope, both of whom in many respects the Doctor resembled, could so set scientific and philosophic facts as to make them sensitive to the breath of the Muse.

Usually scientific accuracy is the death of poetry. Darwin laments that he, who, in the beginning of his studies, took the greatest pleasure in Shakespeare, in later years lost all relish for the great dramatist. On the other hand, a glowing imagination is apt to wing its flight beyond the sphere of proven facts which accurate science demands.

But this poem, which is an address delivered before the Medical Society of the State of New Jersey, illumines the theme of a learned profession with the sacred speech of Polyhymnia. It at once commanded the attention and commendation of both physicians and artists; and from the time of its delivery its author has been known as the physician-poet. This characterization, however, does not do him justice. We might with equal inaccuracy speak of David as the "warrior-psalmist," because the divine bard was a soldier and sometimes sang of war.

"The Microcosm" is but one of the many products of Dr. Coles' lyre, and the spirit that breathes here, as in them all, is not anatomy, but divinity. Correct as is his science, this is the spirit that pervades his song.

"For such as this, did actually enshrine
Thy gracious Godhead once, when thou didst make
Thyself incarnate, for my sinful sake.
Thou who hast done so very much for me,
O let me do some humble thing for Thee!
I would to every organ give a tongue,
That Thy high praises may be fitly sung;
Appropriate ministries assign to each,
The least make vocal, eloquent to teach."

Though the learning is that of the physician, the language and the spirit are those of a seraph. We must place our author among the sacred poets.

We cannot pause to consider at length the perplexing question, What is sacred poetry? We are among those who believe in the sanctity of the art, altogether aside from the theme in which it is employed. It is the voice of the soul's innermost life, expressing itself in form of creative speech, which kindles the feeling while it carries the thought. To turn such a gift to unholy uses is like turning the language of prayer into profanity. But in order to fix our author's place in the sacred choir, we accept the common thought of sacred things. It may be epic, as in Song of Solomon and Bach's "Passion," hymns.

The most copious of our sacred from others not by its metrical forms, ions, but by its personal thought or pas

There are four distinct grades of poet is determined. The first is what terized by the outburst of impassioned artistic, and is distinguished by the ex is didactic, and is differentiated by its and facts. There are doubtless poets dominant motive is sure to give it the are often only doctrine in rhyme. The arranged for a service already prepared, It is usually characterized by poverty fatal lack of passion.

The foremost poet of the natural Hebrew lyric, who, at the very begin specimens of the art. There is outpouring of the passion of only images the soul of the elegy or an idyl, according this class belong also many those of Thomas of Celano; Francis Xavier. They utter sciousness. Measured by this Charles Wesley are highest in the The doctrines of saving truth had



BRONZE BUST OF ABRAHAM COLES, WASHINGTON PARK, NEWARK, N. J.

ence; and they poured them out in rushing torrents of song. Their hymns are their own souls' biography.

Dr. Coles has written more than fifty original poems, many of which merit a place high in the first class of lyrics. Some of them have the intuition, the passion, the imagery which remind us of Cowper.

In a poem entitled "Prayer in Affliction," he describes himself as bowed in sorrow in his home, made desolate by the death of his wife. But in his grief his faith discovers the promise of good out of ill. Then he cries:

"O, that my smitten heart may gush
Melodious praise—like as when o'er
Æolian harp strings wild winds rush,
And all abroad, sad music pour.
So sweet, Heaven's minstrelsy might hush
Brief time to listen, for I know,
The hand that doth my comforts crush,
Builds bliss upon the base of woe."

The whole poem is wondrously suggestive of the genius of him who wrote the immortal, "My Mother."

Some of his hymns throb with a spirit so akin to that of the matchless Wesley that we could readily believe they came from the Methodist's pen. Such is the following:

"Upon His bosom thus to rest,
I cannot ask to be more blest;
To know my sins are all forgiven,
For Jesus' sake, O, this is heaven.

While I love Him and He loves me,
I care no other heaven to see;
And if there be some higher bliss,
I am content while I have this."

But the Doctor did not devote his strength to the product of original hymns. He deliberately chose to turn masterpieces of ancient tongues into English verse. Accordingly we are compelled to rank him in the second order of lyrists. He is "a poet of culture," whose aim is perfect, artistic expression.

What determined his choice was partly his scholarship, partly his intensely spiritual nature, and partly the elegant refinement in which he was born and lived. His learning was varied and accurate. He was a recognized authority in his profession, an accomplished linguist, a master of the classic and Sanskrit tongues, and a critical writer on the profoundest theological themes.

The vastness of his learning gave him such ample material for his verse that his poetic passion made no imperious call for the invention of the intuitive faculty.

We cannot think of him as we do of Burns, walking out under the stars, writhing in pain for some adequate form in which to embody the tumultuous passion he must express. He had but to lift his eyes, and select from his calm, wide vision the form he needed. Had he been an unlettered peasant, the poetic gift would probably have travailed in birth of song, which would have come forth in varied and original imagery. His poems would have shouted and danced like the Psalms of the Maccabees. But wealth of advantage is oftentimes poverty of invention.

As it was, his imagination was constructive rather than creative. Its images are more remarkable for their exquisite finish than for the original boldness of their conception. It was a fortunate thing for the world, and probably for the fame of our author, that he devoted his superb gift to rendering the best of the Hebrew and classic lyrics into English verse. He is not alone among the seraphs who have made the attempt, but is conspicuous in this goodly company as the recognized chief.

Others have copied the ancient masterpieces with wonderful accuracy, but in most instances have failed to reproduce that indescribable charm that gives to a poem its chief value. The spirit that breathes cannot be made to order. It must be born again. Otherwise the poem is a corpse. Dr. Coles has not used his art to exhume mummies. In his verses we have the living voices of the old-time singers.

As Corot caught the varying movement of the trembling foliage in the deepening twilight, and so placed it on his canvas that one can almost see the shadows lengthening and hear the rustling of the leaves, so our poet has reproduced the very soul of the Hebrew and Latin verses. They are not versified translations—they are regenerations. They are not wrought from without, but from within. Hence they retain that inestimable something that gives to a poem its immortality.

As a single illustration, we name his “*Dies Iræ*,” eighteen versions of which come from the strings of his restless lyre. This sublimest masterpiece of sacred Latin poetry and noblest Judgment hymn of all languages has, through many ages, been inviting gifted tongues to voice its majestic solemnities in English speech.

More than thirty have had the temerity to respond. Among them are Earl Roscommon, Sir Walter Scott, Lord Macaulay, Archbishop Trench and General Dix, some of whom have given renditions of considerable merit. But among them all, Dr. Coles wears the greenest laurels. Competent critics, like Dr. Philip Schaff and John G. Whittier, unite in affirming that no man, dead or living, has succeeded so well in rendering the text and spirit of the wonderful hymn.

The Doctor’s baton has made our speech throb with the ancient rhythm and reproduced in astonishing degree the characteristic features of the original.

Here are its artless simplicity, its impassioned solemnity, its trumpet-like cadences which appall the soul with woeful terrors; its triple rhyme which “beats the breast like a hammer,” and gives it an awful music of its own, making the heart shudder with dread apprehension. And in all this quivering of judgment-terror there breathes the intense Christian spirit of the original, which finds its strongest utterance in the appeal:

“Jesus kind, do not refuse me!
O, remember Thou didst choose me!
Lest Thou on that day shalt lose me,
Seeking me Thy tired feet bore Thee,
Cruel nails for my sake tore Thee,
Let all fail not, I implore Thee.”

With equal skill he has put in English verse, hymns from Thomas of Celano, Fortunatus, St. Bernard of Cluny, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, and others, together with many selections from the Greek and Latin classics.

It was natural for one with our poet’s deeply spiritual life to turn with special fondness to those fountains of sacred song that spring from the Hebrew Psalter. There rather than at Helicon the voice of his Muse was heard. He was himself a careful student of the Orient and familiar with the Hebrew tongue.

He believed that the life of the past was better expressed and preserved in its song than in its history,—that the inspiration of the Psalms was not merely poetic, but really and truly divine. He also believed that the much praised antiphonal parallelism which Herder describes as “that language of the heart which has never said all, but ever has something more to say,” is not adapted to the Saxon genius or knowledge.

If then, while he translates the Hebrew into English, he also translates the ancient antiphonal into modern meter, he brings the divine soul of the psalm in living presence before us. The correctness of his view has been often demonstrated. Clement Marot’s metrical version of the Psalms proved to be a potent factor in the French Reformation. There are few things that have told so mightily on the Scotch character as Rouse’s version. It is asserted that in the time of the Reformation, psalm-singers and heretics became almost identical terms. It is an interesting fact, if it be true, as stated, that such was the value our Puritan forefathers placed on psalms in meter, that this was the title of the first book printed in New England.

The church, however, has in a large measure ceased the use of metrical psalms in public worship. This is due partly to the evolution of the English hymn, under the inspiration of Watts and his successors; partly to the vitiated taste occasioned by the use of jingling ditties, and partly to the poor quality of many of the meterized psalms, which are in reality only mechanical paraphrases.

We believe that if Dr. Coles’ thought can only be adequately realized, if accurate translation can be wedded to genuine poetry and set to fitting music, it will be a boon to the church, which is now so sadly agitated with the question of the choral features of its service. We will not affirm that in his version of the Psalms he has in every instance satisfied either the critic’s eye or the Christian’s heart.

Even the wings of Jove's bird sometimes grew weary. The peerless Milton often stumbled in his meter. Are David's own Psalms equal?

But the Doctor has given us a noble volume, which, aside from the other products of his pen, will place his name on the walls of "the immortals." And if psalm-singing never again becomes general in the home and in the church, this rich collection will abide as a most helpful interpreter of the heavenly meanings of the Hebrew songs.

We can barely speak of one other work which this poet lived to complete,—the rendering of the Gospel in verse. To some souls the whole Christian life is a poem—the Gospel is music itself.

But he is a brave man who attempts to sing it all. Samuel Wesley, the father of John and Charles, made the daring effort to versify the Gospels. It was both a literary and financial failure.

With what success Dr. Coles has made a similar effort, it remains for the coming generations to declare. In the meanwhile, we listen to the judgment of the Right Honorable John Bright, of England, who says:

"When I began your volume I thought you had attempted to gild the refined gold, and would fail; as I proceeded in my reading that idea gradually disappeared, and I discovered that you had brought the refined gold together in a manner convenient and useful and deeply interesting. I have read the volume with all its notes, many of which seem to me of great value. I could envy you the learning and the industry that have enabled you to produce this remarkable work. I hope it may have readers in all countries where our language is spoken."

One who consecrates his genius to echoing the thoughts and spirit of the peerless intellects of the past is not apt to command popular affection. There are few Platos and Boswells whose names appear on the scroll of immortality. But if ever that ambition enticed the heart of our author, he can sleep tranquilly on the pillow of his deathless work.

Only six years ago, at the age of seventy-eight, he descended to the tomb. Already his hymns have been placed in many hymnals. His Greek and Latin translations are ranked by critics the very foremost. His psalms and gospels occupy an honored place in every great library of Europe and America.

As the years separate us wider and ever wider from those great productive periods of sacred song, which made glad the ages past, more and more will the coming generations feel the need of Dr. Abraham Coles' rich echoes.

After the benediction by the Rev. Dr. D. J. Yerkes, there was more music. In the words of the New York Observer, "the whole occasion was a delightful tribute of honor to the memory of a noble man."

JONATHAN ACKERMAN COLES,

SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY.



BRONZE BUST OF
ÆSCULAPIUS
Presented to the College of
Physicians and Surgeons,
New York, by Dr. J. A.
Coles.

JONATHAN ACKERMAN COLES, only son of Abraham and Caroline E. Coles, was born in Newark, New Jersey, May 6, 1843, in his homestead building, No. 222 Market street, purchased by his father in 1842, and rendered historic by reason of its having, by its brick construction, stopped the spread of the great fire of 1836. He was prepared for college at the collegiate school of Forest & Quackenbos, in New York city, where he was awarded the prizes for proficiency in rhetoric and German. In 1860 he entered the freshman class of Columbia College, New York. In his senior year, by the unanimous decision of Professor Charles Davies, Professor Murray Nairne and Professor William G. Peck, he received the Philolexian prize for the best essay. He graduated in 1864, and in 1867 received the degree of Master of Arts.

After graduation he began the study of medicine and surgery in the office of his father, in Newark, New Jersey, and, after matriculating at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in New York city, entered, as a student of medicine, the office of Professor T. Gaillard Thomas. At the annual commencement of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1867, he received, from Professor Alonzo Clark, the Harzen prize for the best written report of clinical instruction given during the year in the medical and surgical wards of the New York Hospital. He graduated with honor in 1868, and, after serving in the New York, Bellevue and Charity Hospitals, opened an office in the city of New York, becoming a member of the New York Academy of Medicine and the New York County Medical Society.

The years 1877 and 1878 he spent for the most part in Europe, attending lectures and clinics at the universities of London, Edinburgh, Paris, Heidelberg, Berlin and Vienna. While at Edinburgh he was the guest of Professor Simpson. At Paris he was the guest of his father's friend and college classmate, Dr. J. Marion Sims. At Munich, Bavaria, in company with Dr. Sims, he attended the meetings of the International Medical Congress, and, by invitation, there participated in the honors bestowed upon this distinguished American surgeon, whose excellent bronze statue now adorns Bryant Park, in the city of New York. After visiting Syria, Palestine and Egypt, he returned home and became associated with his father in the practice of his profession, which he has continued in Newark and Scotch Plains to the present time. During his absence, by reason of his father's letters and those of Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, then secretary of state, at Washington, D. C., he was everywhere received with marked courtesy. Soon after his return, at a literary gathering of friends, he, by request, read the following epitome of his travels:

HOME AND ABROAD.

Returned from foreign travel, I
No longer care to wander,—
Of that dear spot I call my home
My fond heart has grown fonder.

Drawn by the fame of far-off lands,
I sought to see them nearer;
And while they justified report
I felt my own was dearer.

Three years ago, to carry out
Long-cherished dreams romantic,
I waved farewells, and found myself
Upon the broad Atlantic.

The warring winds began to blow
And make the cordage rattle,
And with the angry surges join
In fierce and mighty battle.



J. A. Kerman Coles.

The tossing of the sea was grand,
But, Oh! too sympathetic,
The stomach, maugre the sublime,
Succumbed to the emetic.

From Queenstown, on your way to Cork,
You hear "the bells of Shandon,"
As up you sail the river Lee,
That stream they "sound so grand on."

I've barely time to tell you how
I went to kiss the Blarney,
And then proceeded to the lakes
Of beautiful Killarney.

With much to see, I rested not,
To every wish compliant;
Saw all the sights, and, last of all,
The Causeway of the Giant.

Then, rich in memories precious, I,
St. George's Channel crossing,
Exchanged the Emerald for the Pearl—
Gem-isles the deep embossing.

Fair Albion, no words can tell
The debt of love I owe it;
It gave me language, gave the lore
Of prophet and of poet.

Gave Shakespeare, Milton gave, and ope'd
The door of school and college,
Whence I enjoy the sweet delights
And blessedness of knowledge.

Hail, Father-land! Through all my veins
The warm blood warmer gushes:
Because of thee my joyful heart
Is musical as thrushes.

With keen delight, six crowded weeks
I roamed the country over;
And then to see the Continent
I crossed the straits of Dover.

I passed through France, the beautiful;
Through Leopold's dominions;
Through Holland, earliest free, of which
Dutch blood has Dutch opinions.

I coasted Norway to the Cape,
Where I beheld that wonder,
The midnight sun, which scarcely dips
The red horizon under.

The Pole I could not see, nor Poles,
For Poland, I found later,
Was placed far distant from the Poie,—
What error could be greater?

I Sweden, Denmark, visited,
And steppes and cities Russian;
Saw Warsaw, which war saw, when joined
Russ, Austrian, and Prussian.

I did the German capitals,
Up rivers, over bridges,—
Did Switzerland, the land of ice,
Crossed Alpine mountain ridges.

Passed into Italy, now one,
Of art the mighty centre;
Constantinople, Athens seen,
I ancient Egypt enter.

Then on to Palestine I sail
In Mediterranean steamer,
The land made sacred by the feet
Of our Divine Redeemer.

Returning from the East, I stopped
At Malta, and then hasted
Through Spain, through Portugal, through France,
Without a moment wasted.

I stood once more on English ground,
But soon for Scotland started;
Took in my trip the Hebrides,
And then for home departed.

I've told you nothing in detail,
Because of my great hurry,—
Then is it not all written out
In Baediker and Murray?

For your sweet patience, listeners dear,
I own myself your debtor;
Before I went I loved my friends,
Returned, I love them better.

I would not flatter, but since I
Can give my reasons plenty,
As many as you choose to ask,
One million up to twenty,—

I venture to declare, while I
Of ladies have seen many,
Those I see here are quite as good
And beautiful as any.

In 1891 Dr. Coles was elected president of the Union County Medical Society, of New Jersey, and has filled other offices of public and private trust. He is a permanent delegate to the New Jersey State Medical Society, a member of the American Medical Association, a member of the Washington Association of New Jersey, a life member and trustee of the New Jersey Historical Society, a fellow for life of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, etc. He has contributed to the press, has published articles on medical and educational subjects, and has edited some new editions of his father's works. On September 5, 1895, he wrote:

To the HONORABLE JULIUS A. LEBKUECHER, Mayor of the City of Newark:

My Dear Sir,—As a gift to Newark, my native city, in whose educational, scientific and religious advancement my father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles, always took a deep and active interest, I have bought one of the most characteristic and beautiful groups in real bronze to be seen in this country or in Europe. It consists of three figures—an American Indian, his wife and her mother, each life size. The pedestal is of rare dark Italian marble. The whole was executed at Rome, Italy, in 1886, by the distinguished American sculptor, the late C. B. Ives, and is illustrative of the following facts, related by Parkman and other authorities:

After Colonel Bouquet had, in the fall of 1764, compelled the Indian tribes to sue for peace, he demanded the delivery, at Fort Pitt, of all captives in their possession. "Among those brought in for surrender," says Parkman, "were young women who had become partners of Indian husbands, and who now were led reluctantly into the presence of parents or relatives, whose images were almost blotted from their memory. They stood agitated and bewildered; the revival of old affections and the rush of dormant memories painfully contending with more recent attachments, while their Indian lords looked on, scarcely less moved than they, yet hardening themselves with savage stoicism, and standing in the midst of their enemies imperturbable as statues of bronze. Of the women, who were compelled to return with their children to



RECEPTION ROOM AT DEERHURST.

the settlements, some, subsequently, made their escape, eagerly hastening back to their warrior husbands, whose kindness before, as well as at the time of, the surrender had proved to them the sincerity of their affection."

In our artist's group the mother discovers the wife of the Indian to be her daughter, who was carried off in early childhood. She, however, fails in her endeavor to obtain from her some sign of recognition. It was on this occasion that Bouquet, observing her distress, is said to have suggested that she should sing one of the songs she used to sing to her when a child. She did so; then, with a sudden start, followed by a passionate flood of tears, the long-lost daughter threw herself into her mother's arms.

In order that his work might be accurate and distinctive, Mr. Ives left Rome for this country, where he was successful in finding for his model an Indian who fulfilled all his requirements. Returning to Italy, he there perfected this, his great masterpiece.

In 1832 the New Jersey legislature appropriated two thousand dollars to pay the Indians for a claim they made in regard to certain hunting and fishing rights. On this occasion the red men were represented by Shawriskhekung (Wilted Grass), an Indian of pure native blood. He was a graduate of Princeton College, having been educated at the expense of the Scotch Missionary Society, which named him Bartholomew S. Calvin. At the age of twenty-three he entered the Continental army to fight for independence, and at the time he presented to the legislature the petition for pay for the Indian fishing rights he was upward of eighty years of age. This aged Indian closed his address with the following words: "Not a drop of our blood have you spilled in battle; not an acre of our land have you taken but by our consent. These facts speak for themselves and need no comment. They place the character of New Jersey in bold relief and bright example to those states within whose territorial limits our brethren still remain. There may be some who would despise an Indian benediction, but when I return to my people and make known to them the result of my mission, the ear of the great Sovereign of the universe, which is still open to our cry, will be penetrated with our invocation of blessings upon the generous sons of New Jersey."

"It is a proud fact in the history of New Jersey," said Senator Samuel L. Southard before the legislature on this same occasion, "that every foot of her soil has been obtained from the Indians by voluntary purchase and transfer, a fact no other state of the Union, not even the land which bears the name of Penn, can boast of." For these as well as for other reasons it has seemed to me to be preëminently proper that New Jersey should possess this magnificent monument, cast in honor of the American Indian.

With your sanction I will have it brought to Newark, and have it placed on a suitably prepared foundation, all at my own individual expense, in the locality we shall decide upon. Awaiting your reply, I am, with great respect,

Yours sincerely,

JONATHAN ACKERMAN COLES.

To the above was sent the following reply:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY HALL, NEWARK, N. J., September 13, 1895.

DR. JONATHAN ACKERMAN COLES, 222 Market Street, City:

Dear Sir,—The communication directed to the mayor of the city of Newark, dated September 4, 1895, and containing your munificent offer to present to the city a handsome bronze group, was referred to the common council at its last meeting, held Friday, September 6th, accompanied by a message which read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY HALL, NEWARK, N. J., September 6, 1895.

TO THE HONORABLE THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK:

Gentlemen,—I have the honor and pleasure to transmit herewith a communication which I received yesterday from Dr. Jonathan Ackerman Coles. In it he offers, as a gift to the city of Newark, a work of art, by an American sculptor of note, being a group in bronze which marks a most interesting historical event, and as a memorial will recall the valuable services rendered in the interests of science and education by his distinguished father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles.

I respectfully recommend that action be taken by your honorable body to acknowledge the valuable and interesting gift, and to coöperate with the donor in providing a suitable place for its erection.

Yours very truly,

J. A. LEEKUECHER, Mayor.

It was received and read with great gratification, and in response thereto the following resolution of acknowledgment and acceptance was unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, A beautiful work of art, by a sculptor of distinction, has been presented to the city of Newark by Dr. Jonathan Ackerman Coles; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That the mayor be instructed to convey to the donor the sincere sense of appreciation in which this gift is received by the municipal government and people of the city of Newark; and be it further

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five, of whom the mayor and the president of the common council shall be members, be appointed to act with the donor in the selection of a suitable site for the placing of this valuable gift."

In pursuance of the above resolution, I have the honor to extend to you, in behalf of the municipal government, the assurance of its high appreciation of your generous gift, and as chief executive to tender to you the thanks of its citizens.

The spirit which prompts the presentation of this artistic group of bronze to the city is worthy of the greatest commendation. It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge, for the first time in the history of the city, a gift from one of its private citizens which shall be for many generations a civic monument of beauty and a source of pride to the residents of Newark.

I have the honor to be, yours very truly,

J. A. LEBKUECHER, Mayor.

The committee, which consisted of Mayor Julius A. Lebkuecher, Mr. David D. Bragaw, president of the common council; Aldermen William Harrigan, Sidney N. Ogden, and Winton C. Garrison, after visiting the different parks, in company with the donor, finally decided upon the north end of Lincoln Park, as the most suitable site for the bronze.

Subsequently the mayor and common council presented Dr. Coles with a testimonial of the city's appreciation of his gift. This memorial the New York Tribune describes as "a beautiful specimen of the art of engrossing. It is in an album form, bound in dark leather of the finest quality, the fly leaves being of rich white moire silk. The body of the memorial contains the communication of the mayor to the common council announcing the offer of Dr. Coles, the resolutions passed by the council in accepting the gift, and the announcement by Mayor Lebkuecher to Dr. Coles of the acceptance. The delineator is Mr. John B. Morris, secretary of the board of assessments."

An editorial in the Newark Daily Advertiser said: "The public-spirited gift of a life-size bronze group to the city of Newark is most heartily appreciated by Newark citizens. Dr. Coles could not have done a public act more graceful or more in harmony with the changing conditions of life in this community. We have been essentially an industrial people, and, in our busy efforts to earn and save, there has been little time or leisure to be applied to the refinements of public art that belong to old and settled civilization. We are growing into that now. Soon we shall have a beautiful park system, and we hope to grace it with the adornments of art, contributed by educated and public-spirited citizens."

The Rt. Rev. John Williams, D. D., LL. D., bishop of the diocese of Connecticut, chancellor of Trinity College, etc., in a letter to Dr. Coles, referring to the bronze and its pedestal, said: "An inscription of the last stanzas of your father's beautiful national hymns, 'Columbia, the Land of the Free,' and 'My Native Land,' upon the marble pedestal of the bronze historical group, would not only be a graceful tribute to your father's memory, but would also give a national as well as local value to the gift." The bishop's recommendation was carried out. In 1666 Newark was settled by people from Connecticut.

Thanksgiving day was selected by the common-council committee and Dr. Coles as the time most appropriate for the unveiling exercises. The New York Herald referred to the occasion as follows:

Five thousand persons gathered in Lincoln Park, Newark, yesterday afternoon (November 28, 1895,) to witness the unveiling and presentation to the city of a life-size historic group in bronze by the distinguished American sculptor, C. B. Ives. * * * The entire cost of the group, its pedestal and everything in connection with its erection and unveiling, was borne by Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, son of the late Dr. Abraham Coles. The exercises opened with a national hymn, "My Native Land," by Abraham Coles, sung by the children, teachers and friends of the public and private schools of Newark, and elsewhere in the state, led by Professor Thomas Bott, James V. Orchard, and David B. Dana, cornetist, under the direction of Mr. Frank E. Drake.

Just as the hymn was finished the statue was unveiled by the drawing back of a large American flag, by Miss Lucy Depue Ogden, granddaughter of Supreme Court Justice Depue, and Master Robest B. Bradley, grandson of the late United States Supreme Court Justice Bradley. A great cheer went up from the crowd as the group was disclosed to view, and when it had subsided Dr. J. A. Coles made a brief presentation speech, which embodied what he said in his letter to Mayor Lebkuecher, in offering the group to the city. On behalf of the citizens of Newark, Mayor Lebkuecher made an address of acceptance. He said: "It gives me great pleasure to receive and accept, on behalf of the people of Newark, the beautiful piece of bronze statuary which your generosity has prompted you to present to this city. The people will appreciate in its fullest sense this artistic gift, and will hold in grateful remembrance the generous giver. In accepting it, I tender to you the thanks of all the people of our city. It should be a matter of self-congratulation and satisfaction that the city of Newark has reached that stage in its history and development when its citizens are able to give

expression to their more cultured tastes. And now, Mr. President of the board of street and water commissioners, upon your board devolves the duty of seeing to the safe keeping of this statue, and I now deliver it over to your care."

President Van Dyne, of the board of works, followed with a short address, and then followed one of the most interesting features of the whole ceremony. It was the delivery, by the pretty little Miss Grace E. Bates, grandniece of David D. Bragaw, president of the common council, of the keys of the metal boxes placed in the pedestal (containing the names of more than thirty thousand school children, a copy of the Bible, a Newark directory, and various objects of local and general interest) to the equally pretty and tiny Miss Helen Coykendall, while held in the arms of her grandfather, Chief of Police Henry Hopper, whose duty it became to see that little Miss Coykendall dropped the keys into the Passaic river, from the draw of the Bridge street bridge, for safe keeping.

Then another national hymn, "Columbia, the Land of the Free," was sung, and an address was made by the president of the board of education, Dr. Henry J. Anderson. This was followed by the singing of the "Fourth of July," a national hymn, and an address by the superintendent of public schools, Dr. William N. Barringer. The subject of his talk was "A Nation's History as shown by its Monuments." "Our Country's Banner" was sung; there was an address by the Rev. Dr. D. R. Frazer, of the First Presbyterian church; the singing of a bicentennial ode, entitled "Two Hundred Years Ago," and then the benediction, by Rev. Dr. R. M. Luther, pastor of the South Park Baptist church.

All the national hymns and the ode sung were the compositions of the late Dr. Abraham Coles, in whose memory the group will really stand.

The free public library is the possessor of one of the choicest specimens of artistic work in steel and bronze ever seen in Newark. It is a German Columbian memorial shield, executed for the German department of the liberal-arts building at the World's Fair, and is the gift of the family of the late Dr. Abraham Coles.

The following description is from the Newark Evening News: The shield is of polished steel and bronze, and is about three feet in diameter. It is surmounted by the American eagle, which, with outspread wings, holds in its claws arrows, sprays of myrtle and a banner bearing the legend, "Westward the Star of Empire Takes Its Way." Around the margin of the shield are the inscriptions: "Dedicated to the American People in Honor of the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Discovery of America." "1492—United We Stand, Divided We Fall—1892."

In the center of the shield in high relief stands a beautiful female figure representing Science, or the Goddess of Discovery. She is lifting a mantle from the Western Hemisphere, which is illuminated by the golden rays of the rising sun. Beneath are shown the mariner's compass and palms of victory.

Around the central group are placed the coats-of-arms of all the states and territories (forty-nine in all), tied together with bands bearing the words "E Pluribus Unum," "In God We Trust." Eight bas-relief bronze medallions represent principal events in the history of America, viz.: "The Landing of Columbus," "The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers," "The Signing of the Declaration of Independence," "Washington Crossing the Delaware," "The Battle of Churubusco," in which the Mexicans, under Santa Anna, were totally defeated by the Americans, under General Scott (1847); "The Emancipation Proclamation," "The Capitol at Washington," "An allegorical picture representing progress in science, industry and commerce, with Columbia welcoming all to the World's Fair." There are also eight bronze portraits on the shield, those of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, Morse and Longfellow. Eight small shields record the names and population of the eight largest cities,—New York, 1,627,000; Chicago, 1,100,000; Philadelphia, 1,040,000; Boston, 418,000; St. Louis, 450,000; Cincinnati, 306,000; Baltimore, 500,000, and San Francisco, 320,000.

"Dr. Coles and his sister, Miss E. S. Coles," says the Christian Herald, "have given to the Newark public library, from the estate of their father, the statue of Benjamin Franklin and his whistle, executed in Carrara marble by Pasquale Romanelli. It was made in Italy, in 1863, and attracted much attention at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876."

It stands on a carved pedestal of dark marble. The figure is exquisitely graceful, and the execution shows the highest technical power. The conception is based on the incident described by Franklin himself, in a letter written to a friend in Philadelphia, in November, 1779:

When I was a child, seven years old, my friends, on a holiday, filled my pockets with coppers. I went directly to a shop where they sold toys for children, and, being charmed with the sound of a whistle that I met by the way in the hands of another boy, I voluntarily offered and gave all my money for one. I then came home and went whistling all over the house, much pleased with my whistle, but disturbing all the family. My brothers and sisters and cousins, understanding the bargain I had made, told me I had given four times as much for it as it was worth, put me in mind of what good things I might have bought with the rest of the money, and laughed at me so much for my folly that I cried with vexation, and the reflection gave me more chagrin than the whistle gave me pleasure. This, however, was afterwards of use to me, the impression continuing on my mind so that often when I was tempted to buy some unnecessary thing I said to myself, "Don't give too much for the whistle," and I saved my money.

As I grew up, came into the world, and observed the actions of men, I thought I met with many, very many, who gave too much for the whistle. * * * In short, I conceive that great part of the miseries of mankind are brought upon them by the false estimates they have made of the value of things, and by giving too much for their whistles.

The New York Tribune, April 20, 1897, says: "The Newark free library, which is soon to occupy a new and handsome building to be erected this year on a site selected, facing Washington Park, in Newark, has begun to receive gifts from citizens of wealth and culture. Yesterday the library trustees received, and placed in the library, two beautiful life-size medallions in high relief. Accompanying the gift was the following letter from the donor:

Prominent among the art treasures in the marble palace of the late A. T. Stewart, on Fifth avenue and Thirty-fourth street, in New York city, were two pieces of statuary, designated "Sappho" and "First Love," by the well known American sculptor, Richard Hamilton Park. Visitors to the Metropolitan Museum of Art will also remember this artist's beautiful memorial of marble and bronze, in "The Poet's Corner," to the memory of Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849).

Two other works, to some fully as interesting, and to many, perhaps, more fascinating, are his two beautiful life-size medallions, in Carrara marble, portraying in high relief the profiles of two little girls, appropriately designated "Evening" and "Morning." The countenance of the one, as attractive as an evening sunset, bears the impress of weariness, attendant upon the close of a well spent day; while that of the other, bright and joyous, after refreshing sleep, is equally suggestive of early sunrise and the singing of birds.

All who love children and their innocent pleasures will find in these two medallions much to admire, and it is, therefore, with a feeling of confidence and pleasure that I, presuming upon your acceptance of the same, have ordered them, with their elegantly carved frames and pedestals, costing, originally, in Florence, Italy, about eight hundred dollars, to be sent this day as gifts to the free public library of Newark, believing that visitors thereto will find in them additional incentives to the cultivation of the refined and beautiful in art.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

J. ACKERMAN COLES.

NEWARK, April 19, 1897.

"A letter sent to-day," says the Newark Daily Advertiser, "by Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, to Principal Edmund O. Hovey, of the high school, announces the writer's gift to the school of an elaborate copper-bronze globe. A hint is also given of another gift for the new high school." Here is the text of the letter:

My Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your courteous letter, in which you kindly refer to the time when the late Dr. Abraham Coles, my father, was, for a number of years, a member of the board of education, chairman of the normal-school committee, and ever active in advancing the varied interests of the public schools of Newark. I appreciate your appreciation of the addresses you mention as made by him, in presenting to the president of the board of education, for graduation, the classes of 1872, 1873 and 1874.

You, moreover, suggest the propriety of my giving something in bronze to remind the one thousand two hundred and four bright and intelligent boys and girls now in the high school, of the interest taken by Dr. Coles in the education of their parents, and in them, their successors. Your letter reached me at an opportune moment, soon after the arrival at my office of a box, not yet opened, containing a large copper-bronze globe, with its stand, which I had been successful in obtaining as an intended gift for the new high school of Newark. This globe is a model of the earth, and is remarkably interesting as representing, as it were, a survey of the bottom of the sea, of the lakes and of the rivers. It also shows the comparative heights of the mountains and the depths of the valleys on land. It shows us what every man, woman and child has always been curious to know, viz.: how the bottom of the sea looks. Here we see the cause of the different currents, and the results of volcanic eruptions beneath the ocean's bed. It is interesting to note and compare the oceanic levels, also the sudden and gradual depressions, and the varied elevations of the two hemispheres. No school in New York city, nor in New Jersey, I am informed, has such a model of the earth, and it was, in a measure, due to my desire that the metropolis of New Jersey should continue to lead in educational matters, that I was led to purchase the same as a gift for its high school. When you get into your new fire-proof building, it may be my privilege and pleasure to donate something else. When agreeable to the board of education, I will send the bronze globe and its pedestal, and locate them where you desire.

Dr. Coles has since given to the Newark board of education, for its high school, now completed, a life-size bronze medallion portrait of Dr. Abraham Coles, the work of Charles Conrads, of Hartford, Connecticut, and, also, the celebrated oil painting (seven feet by five feet), known as Corfe Castle, regarded as the masterpiece of J. F. Cropsey.

"Another acceptable gift to the Newark free public library," says the New York Tribune, "is announced in the following letter:"

Gentlemen,—Of the more than seven hundred sculptures in marble that line the walls of the Museo Chiaramonti, of the Vatican, at Rome, Italy, there is, probably, no one that receives more attention from, or is better remembered by, visitors, than the one known as the "Bust of Young Augustus," found at Ostia, A. D. 1808.

A beautiful life-size copy of this celebrated work I was so fortunate as to discover a few days ago in the store of an importer, in New York city. Knowing the rarity and value of the bust, it being made of the finest Carrara marble, and of the same size and finish as the original, I immediately purchased it, with a suitable marble pedestal, as a gift to the free public library of Newark, where, anticipating your acceptance of the same, it, with its pedestal, will probably arrive to-morrow. With great respect, I have the honor to be

Yours truly,

J. ACKERMAN COLES.

The trustees subsequently acknowledged the receipt of and acceptance of the gift.

"To the New Jersey Historical Society," says the New York Commercial Advertiser, "for the erection thereon of a suitable fire-proof building, Dr. J. A. Coles has offered to give either one of two valuable plots of land in the city of Newark, fronting on and overlooking the Branch Brook park. One plot is near its Sixth avenue entrance, with a frontage of fifty feet on the park, thence running back two hundred feet, to Fifth street, with a front thereon of fifty feet. The other plot is at the boulevard entrance, and has a frontage of one hundred and twelve feet on the park, and fifty feet on Fifth avenue."

In order that the New Jersey Historical Society might, in addition to its other treasures, possess a complete and comprehensive library of reference, Dr. Coles has given it, in addition to other works, Appleton's Annual Cyclopædias and Registry of Important Events of the years 1876 to 1896, inclusive, embracing political, military and ecclesiastical affairs, public documents, biography, statistics, commerce, finance, literature, science, agriculture and mechanical industry, being twenty-two volumes, bound in half morocco, handsomely illustrated and indexed, the latest editions; also, as executor of the estate of his father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles, one of the special sets of the Encyclopædia Britannica, consisting of twenty-five volumes, bound in half morocco, and printed in Edinburgh (1891) from the original plates, with the corrections authorized by the editor, the late William Robertson Smith, to which gift was added Appleton's Cyclopædia of American Biography, six volumes, half morocco, and Appleton's Cyclopædia of General Knowledge, sixteen volumes, half morocco, last editions. These seventy volumes in all constitute a complete and comprehensive condensation of the history of all ages and peoples. Every article is brought down to the latest possible date, thus including the most recent events in history, and researches in science, art and manufactures.

On March 29, 1897, Dr. J. A. Coles wrote:

TO THE HON. JOHN W. GRIGGS, LL. D., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Dear Sir,—I am the owner of the celebrated oil painting known as "The Good Samaritan," by our distinguished American artist, Daniel Huntington. The picture, with its frame, measures about nine feet in width by eleven feet in height, the principal figures being life size. It was executed by Daniel Huntington, in his studio, in Paris, France, in the years 1852-3, and in illustration or interpretation of the second great commandment of the law: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Here, with wonderful skill, is vividly portrayed the arrival at the inn, the sympathetic interest of the host and others, and the respectful attention given to the orders of "The Good Samaritan."

Mr. Huntington informs me that while engaged on this painting he was visited in his studio by Paul Delaroche, the eminent historical painter of France, who took a deep interest in the progress of his work, and by friendly suggestions as to detail, color, etc., rendered him much assistance, a circumstance which adds immensely to the value of this picture, as it may be regarded as the joint work of these two great master minds. After its completion, requiring several months, it was, after attracting much attention in Paris, sent to this country, exhibited at the National Academy, then on Broadway, and formed one of the chief attractions at the Sanitary Fair exhibition of paintings, held in Fourteenth street, New York city, during the late civil war.

Mr. Huntington, having learned that I contemplated giving this picture, through you, to the people of New Jersey, wrote to me a few weeks ago, suggesting that I should first send the canvas to his studio in New York city, and leave it with him for a month, in order that he might retouch and restore any injuries done by the hand of time. This I have done, and Mr. Huntington has not only gone over the whole canvas, but has, at the suggestion and request of friends, introduced a portrait of himself as the host of the inn. I have also had its artistic and beautiful frame relaid with the best of gold leaf.

Upon receipt of word from you, that, as a gift, the painting will be acceptable to the state, I will, as soon as practicable, at my own expense, send it to Trenton, and have it hung in the place deemed most suitable for its reception in the capitol, a building associated with pleasant meetings therein of my father, the late Abraham Coles, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., LL. D., with his friends, some of whom are still living, while the portraits of others adorn its walls. It is with special pride I recall the recorded words of the late Governor Daniel Haines, and those of the late Henry Woodhull Green, chief justice and chancellor, who, in referring to the life and writings of Dr. Abraham Coles, affirm that "to him the world owes a debt of gratitude for his labor and research, which redound to the honor of our state." Awaiting your reply, I am, with great respect,

Yours sincerely,

J. ACKERMAN COLES.

Governor Griggs' reply is as follows:

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, TRENTON, March 30, 1897.

DR. J. ACKERMAN COLES.

My Dear Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 29th inst., tendering to the state of New Jersey the painting known as "The Good Samaritan." I assure you nothing would delight me more than to accept at your hands such a valuable gift on behalf of the people of the state. The picture will be accorded the best hanging that can be selected for it in the state house, and I will have an engraved plate, if it meets your pleasure, placed upon it, giving the name of the generous donor. Permit me to say that your generosity and goodness to your native state are deserving of the highest appreciation on behalf of the people, and when the picture shall have been received, I hope to express to you, in a more formal way, the thanks and gratitude of the executive for your generous donation.

Whenever it shall suit your convenience to forward the picture, it will be received and cared for with all the consideration that it deserves.

Very sincerely yours,

JOHN W. GRIGGS, Governor.

A special to the New York Sun, dated Trenton, New Jersey, June 11, 1897, says: "Daniel Huntington's painting, 'The Good Samaritan,' was received at the capitol this morning. The painting was so large that it could not be put in a freight car. It was brought here on a large truck, which started from Newark yesterday morning. A brass plate at the bottom of the frame bears this inscription: 'A gift to the people of New Jersey, in memory of Abraham Coles, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., LL. D.,' and this quotation, from one of Dr. Coles' works: 'We can weigh actions better than we can motives. The hand of Omniscience needs to hold the scales when hearts are to be judged.' The painting was hung in the state house, opposite the front stairway." Harper's Weekly referred to New Jersey as getting "an admirable painting in memory of a good and distinguished citizen." The Newark Sunday Call and other papers also took occasion to speak of the value and appropriateness of the gift.

The two following incidents in the surgical life of Dr. Abraham Coles have but recently come to light and are here given as understood and reported: In fixing the ceiling of one of the churches in the city of Newark, the scaffolding tipped and one of the workmen fell to the floor, where he lay unconscious and apparently dead. Several surgeons were hastily summoned, but upon seeing the case abandoned it as hopeless. Dr. Coles at last arrived, and listening at the man's breast thought he detected signs of life. He had him immediately removed to his home and placed on a couch. Kneeling beside him, after engaging for a few moments in silent prayer, he carefully trephined his fractured skull and lifted a portion of depressed bone from off his brain, whereupon the man regained consciousness and subsequently his wonted health.

A boy laughing, while eating a piece of watermelon, inhaled a large seed, which, lodging in his pharynx, produced symptoms threatening death. Dr. Coles was sent for and removed the seed by tracheotomy. The boy's mother saved the seed, had it mounted in gold, and wore it constantly thereafter in grateful remembrance of her son's deliverer. The boy grew to manhood and became a useful citizen of Newark.

At a meeting of the trustees of Columbia College, held at the college on Monday, the 4th day of January, 1897, the following action was taken:

Resolved: That the thanks of the trustees be tendered to Dr. J. Ackerman Coles for his most welcome and valuable gift to the university of several bronze busts, handsomely and appropriately mounted. 1. A copy of the Olympian Zeus, by Phidias. 2. A copy of the bust of Plato, found in the house of Papyri, Herculaneum. 3. A copy of the Hermes of Praxiteles, found in the temple of Hera, Olympia. A true copy.

[Seal.]

JOHN B. PINE, Clerk.

Previous to the receipt by Dr. Coles of an engrossed copy of the above resolution, he had received a personal note, which read as follows:

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

PRESIDENT'S ROOM, December 16, 1896.

My Dear Dr. Coles,—I have just seen the bronzes in the library. They are beautiful, and I am very sure they will be accepted with gratitude. I had the pleasure of telling the alumni last evening of your generosity, and in due time you will receive the formal thanks of the trustees. The alumni received the announcement with applause.

Yours faithfully,

SETH LOW, President.

On June 29, 1897, to Dr. Coles was sent the following, also beautifully engrossed:

The Trustees of Columbia College in the City of New York.

At a meeting of the trustees of Columbia College, in the city of New York, held at the college on Monday, the seventh day of June in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the following action was taken:

Resolved: That the thanks of the trustees be tendered to Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, for his gift to the university of an heroic-size marble bust of the Parthenon Minerva, with its pedestal, bearing a bronze medallion portrait of Pericles, and also of an heroic bronze bust of Homer, a copy of the one in the Louvre, which he has had cast especially for the university library building. A true copy.

[Seal.]

"JOHN B. PINE, Clerk."

Upon the completion of the Columbia University library the New York Tribune said: "The front, with its massive colonnade, gives at once the idea of grandeur and simplicity. And when the visitor steps inside, over the large tablet of brass near the threshold, which sets forth that the building is given by Seth Low in memory of his father, it is evident that the interior fulfills the external promise. Just within the entrance stands a magnificent bust of Minerva, upon a high pedestal, presented to the university by Dr. Coles. As the light falls upon this through the aisles of lofty pillars the effect is wonderfully beautiful."

The following extract from the New York Herald is apropos in this connection:

"For Columbia University, on Morningside Heights, New York city, Messrs. Tiffany & Company have completed an elegant and very interesting work of art as a gift from Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, of Newark, New Jersey, an alumnus of

Columbia College. It consists of a bronze bust of Homer, heroic size, a copy of the one in the Louvre, Paris, and was cast especially for the university at the celebrated foundry of Barbedienne, in France. The pedestal is square and is about six feet high, its base being of Numidian and the shaft of Sienna marble, both specimens having been carefully selected for the purpose. On one side of the shaft, set in the marble, is a large bronze plaque representing, in bas relief, Penelope busy at her loom. On the other side a bronze plaque of the same size depicts the return of Ulysses from his wanderings after the fall of Troy, as related in the *Odyssey*, the second of the two great poems attributed to Homer. Within a fortnight the gift will be transferred to the university.

The story it tells is this: Penelope, the daughter of Icarus, the brother of Tyndarus, king of Sparta, was an accomplished princess of great beauty. She had many suitors, and her father promised her as a prize to the one who should win in a foot race. Ulysses, being a competitor, outran the others, and his marriage to Penelope was celebrated about the same time as was that of Menelaus to Helen, the most beautiful woman in Greece, and the cause of the Trojan war. Ulysses, with Penelope, returned to reign over Ithaca. There their son Telemachus was born, and for several years their mutual happiness was supreme. In the meantime Paris, the son of Priam, king of Troy, with Æneas, were guests at the court of Menelaus, then king of Sparta. Taking advantage of a temporary absence of Menelaus in Crete, Paris eloped with Helen to Troy. Menelaus, upon discovering his treachery, declared war against the Trojans, and in consequence of an oath, which bound the chieftains throughout Greece to aid one another, all, including Ulysses, were obliged to embark with Menelaus for the plains of Ilium, to lay siege to the city of Troy, as described in the *Iliad* of Homer and the *Æneid* of Virgil. In the ten-years war that followed, Ulysses was distinguished not only for his prowess as a warrior, but also for his eloquence, sagacity and inexhaustible resources under difficulties. Learning that Troy could not be taken while the Palladium, a wooden image of Minerva, remained in the city, he, by stratagem, got possession of it, and managed subsequently to be carried within the walls of Troy concealed, with others, in the belly of a wooden horse. Emerging from this when the Trojans were off guard, he effected the total destruction of their city. The war was now over. Paris had been slain and Helen restored to Menelaus. Ulysses, accordingly, eagerly set sail for Ithaca. His vessel, however, no sooner left the shores of Ilium than a series of new dangers and trials encountered him, and another ten years passed before he arrived in disguise on his palace grounds, unrecognized by all, save by his faithful hound, whose exuberant joy Ulysses, in the bronze plaque on the pedestal, is represented as suppressing by holding his jaws tightly closed. Here he learned from a faithful servant and from Telemachus that during his twenty-years absence Penelope, still beautiful, faithful and loving, had anxiously waited for his coming, and had kept at bay her many suitors, who argued his death, by telling them she would entertain no offers of marriage until she had finished weaving a certain robe, the threads of which she was careful to remove each night after her day's labor. This artifice having been made known to the suitors by one of her maids, she consented to bestow her hand on that one who on the following day should from Ulysses' bow shoot an arrow through the eyes of several axe heads placed in a row. Retaining his disguise, Ulysses, at the time of the trial, waited until all had failed, and then, readily shooting the arrow through the axe eyes, he, with some remaining arrows, slew the suitors and made himself known to his devoted and delighted Penelope, thereafter the historical and classical ideal of a devoted, faithful, prudent and sagacious wife.

The bust and its pedestal will probably be located in Alumni Hall, inasmuch as the heroic bust of the Parthenon Minerva, given by Dr. Coles, as executor of the estate of his father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles, graces the entrance hall of the Low Memorial Library. This beautiful marble bust of Minerva was executed at Athens, Greece, by the Greek artist, Droses, and is believed to be a correct copy of the one by Phidias that stood in the Parthenon on the Acropolis. It was made for, and attracted much attention at, the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876, and was afterwards purchased by Messrs. Tiffany & Company for the estate of the late Dr. Abraham Coles, who was an art connoisseur of exquisite taste, but was more widely known to the literary world as the one of whom Whittier said: "No man, living or dead, has so rendered the text and spirit of the old and wonderful Latin hymns." His translation of the Hebrew psalms is also considered by scholars in Europe and America as the best.

Since the death of Dr. Abraham Coles, in 1891, his son, Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, as executor of his estate, has given many valuable works of art to institutions of learning in New Jersey, and elsewhere. The literary writings of Abraham Coles are found in nearly every public library in Europe. In 1848 he did surgical duty in Paris, France, during the revolution of that year, and in 1854 he was called as consulting physician and surgeon in England and on the continent.

To the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, Dr. J. A. Coles, as executor, has given two valuable bronzes cast in Paris at the foundry of Barbedienne. One is a copy of "The Dying Gaul" or gladiator, found in the garden of Sallust, which, with its right arm restored by Michael Angelo, is now in the museum of the Capitol, in Rome. The other is a copy of the bust of Æsculapius in the museum of the Louvre, in Paris. Both, appropriately and elegantly mounted by Tiffany & Company, have places in the trustees' parlor in the college. By reason of its grace and realistic anatomical accuracy, "The Dying Gaul" has always been regarded as the masterpiece of the Pergamenian school in sculpture, forming as it did with its companion piece, "The Fighting Gaul," the chief adornments of the triumphal monument erected in the second century, B. C., to the memory of Attalus II. in Pergamos, Asia Minor, then at the zenith of its glory as a center of art, wealth and influence.

"To Princeton University," says the New York Examiner, "Dr. Coles and his sister have given, with its marble pedestal, the magnificent life-size marble statue of 'Nydia,' made of the best Carrara marble, by Randolph Rogers, in Rome, Italy, in 1856. Several copies of it were subsequently made. One was at the Centennial Exposition, and another in A. T. Stewart's collection. The one given to Princeton is the original. It has been carefully preserved and its value enhanced

by the lapse of time." To this idealization of the blind girl of Pompeii is attributed the foundation of Rogers' fame as an artist and sculptor, securing for him the commission to design (1858) the bronze doors for the capitol at Washington, D. C., and to finish the Washington monument at Richmond, Virginia (1861).

"The original statue of Nydia," says the American Register, Paris, France, "was given to Princeton University in appreciation of the mutual regard which for more than fifty years existed between the trustees, faculty and instructors of the College of New Jersey and the late Abraham Coles, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., LL. D."

From the president of the university the donors received the following acknowledgment:

PRINCETON, N. J., August 3, 1896.

MISS EMILIE S. COLES AND DR. J. ACKERMAN COLES,

DEERHURST, SCOTCH PLAINS, N. J.

My Dear Friends,—At the meeting of the board of trustees of the College of New Jersey, held during commencement week, in June last, I had the pleasure of reporting to them that I had received, in behalf of the college, from you, the beautiful marble statue of Nydia, which you so kindly presented to the college out of the estate of your father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles.

The gift was very gratefully received by the trustees, and I was requested, in their behalf, to write to you expressing the very cordial thanks of the trustees for the beautiful statue which now adorns the Museum of Historic Art.

I have great pleasure in discharging the duty assigned to me by the trustees. Nydia will always be associated in

our minds with the memory of your gifted father, and I venture to hope that the common interest which you and we have in this masterpiece of the sculptor's art will constitute a strong bond between you and Princeton University.

I trust that we may have the pleasure of seeing you at Princeton sometimes, and I beg to assure you that whenever you will honor us with a visit you will find a most cordial welcome in our home from Mrs. Patton and myself.

I am, very sincerely,

FRANCIS S. PATTON.



A FAR VIEW AT DEERHURST

was stuffed, and figured in the procession celebrating the laying of the Atlantic cable. It also appeared at the Old Guard's ball in New York and at other festivities in that city. It has been handsomely fitted up by the person who gave it, and is now in the biological laboratory, from which it will be removed when other quarters are provided for it. The donor is Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, of Newark, New Jersey."

Professor William Libbey, secretary of the committee on reception and entertainment, sesquicentennial exercises, College of New Jersey, wrote to Dr. Coles, October 16, 1896: "We will be very glad to accept the historic tiger, and use it upon the occasion of the torch-light procession. I telegraphed you in order that there might be no delay in getting the animal packed up, so as to reach us in time. Permit me, on the part of the college, to thank you most cordially for this indication of your interest." The tiger was carefully cased and sent under special guard to Professor Libbey. Extra precaution was deemed necessary to prevent its going to some other college. It took part in the procession, which was a brilliant success.

From Ainsworth Rand Spofford, LL. D., the librarian of congress, Dr. J. A. Coles has received the following letter:

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sir,—I have your much esteemed favor, proffering, as a gift to the congressional library, a life-size bronze bust, to be preserved in the new library building, in memory of your father. This generous offer is fully appreciated, and will be communicated to the joint committee of both houses of congress on the library when organized. Meanwhile I am authorized to receive the gift, to be assigned an honorable and appropriate place in the new building of the library of congress, now completed.

Permit me to express my high sense of the literary value of Dr. Abraham Coles' fine translations of Latin mediæval hymns and other works.

Very respectfully,

A. R. SPOFFORD, Librarian of Congress.

J. ACKERMAN COLES, M. D., NEWARK, N. J.

The University of Chicago was made the recipient of the bronze mentioned in the following correspondence. To the president, William Rainey Harper, Ph. D., D. D., LL. D., Dr. Coles wrote:

Belonging to the estate of the late Abraham Coles, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., LL. D., my father, is a bust of Homer, of the best quality of bronze. It is of heroic size, and was cast for Messrs. Tiffany & Company, of New York city, at the celebrated foundry of Barbedienne, Paris, France. This, with its imported marble pedestal, I, as executor of my father's estate, my sister, Emilie S. Coles, cordially concurring, now offer as a gift to the University of Chicago, and upon notification that the same will be acceptable to its board of trustees, I will send them thither by express, with all charges prepaid.

I have just re-read in the magazine entitled "The Old Testament Student with New Testament Supplement," edited by yourself, your kind critical review of the "New Rendering of the Hebrew Psalms into English Verse," by Abraham Coles, a work which, I learn, has found its way into the university libraries of Oxford and Cambridge, England, and also into some of those on the continent of Europe, eliciting an endorsement of the criticisms uttered by yourself, while professor of the Semitic languages and Biblical literature at Yale University.

President Harper's reply is as follows:

I wish to assure you of the appreciation of the university of the courtesy and kindness of yourself and sister in presenting to the university the bronze bust of Homer, with its marble pedestal. I cannot think of any gift which we would appreciate more, and I am very much pleased, indeed, that we may thus perpetuate the memory of your father in connection with the university. The boxes containing them may be addressed directly to me, in care of the university, and I will make the proper presentation to the trustees, and they will then acknowledge the gift officially. I am very much disappointed that I did not have the pleasure of meeting you at the Princeton sesquicentennial.

The New York Tribune, in speaking of Harvard University, says:

Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, of Newark, whose gifts of valuable art objects to educational and public bodies have been generous, and who lately gave to the Chicago University a heroic bronze bust of Homer, has just presented to Harvard University a life-size bronze bust of Socrates. The bronze is part of the estate of the late Dr. Abraham Coles, of Newark, a well known classical scholar and author. It was made by Barbedienne, in France, for Tiffany & Company. The donor, in giving the bronze to Harvard, said that he desired it to be a reminder of the friendly relations that existed between his father and the officers, professors and graduates of Harvard, especially President Thomas Hill, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, James Russell Lowell, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Phillips Brooks.

In acknowledging the gift, President Eliot writes as follows:

J. ACKERMAN COLES.

Dear Sir,—Your letter is just received. I hasten to say that the gift of a bronze bust of Socrates, with its marble pedestal, will be very welcome to Harvard University.

I am obliged to you for saying that this valuable gift, made by yourself and your sister, is intended as a reminder of the friendly relations which existed for many years between your father and the distinguished men—officers and graduates of Harvard—whose names you record. Your letter will be deposited in the archives of the university. Believe me, with high regard, sincerely yours,

CHARLES W. ELIOT.

From North East Harbor, Maine, under date of July 6, 1897, President Charles W. Eliot writes to Dr. Coles:

My Dear Sir,—I desire to report to you that the admirable bust of Socrates, which you and your sister presented to the university, has been placed in the library of the classical department, in an advantageous position, and that it is universally regarded as a great ornament to the room. The admirable manner in which the bust is mounted adds greatly to the value of the gift. The library of the classical department is kept in Harvard Hall, in the rooms in the first story immediately on the right as you enter the first door. Whenever you come to Cambridge I beg that you will visit this library and observe the appropriateness of this place of deposit for your excellent gift.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES W. ELIOT.

J. ACKERMAN COLES, M. D.

Following is a copy of the correspondence relating to the estate's gift to Yale:

REV. TIMOTHY DWIGHT, D. D., LL. D., President of Yale University.

Dear Sir,—I have read with much interest of the safe arrival at your university of the "Curtius Library," its careful packing having been personally superintended by Frau Curtius herself, who was particular to have it reach you in its entirety. I have read of its three thousand five hundred bound volumes and many pamphlets,—one hundred and fifteen being on Greek epigraphy, forty-five on Olympia, and seventy-five on Greek lyric poetry,—all classified and arranged for convenient use,—a library, in fact, covering the whole field of Greek philology and archæology, made especially valuable from the fact that, had not Professor Curtius been tutor to the Emperor Frederick, the German excavations (1875-1881) might never have been made, and Olympia be still left a buried city.

To the estate of Abraham Coles, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., LL. D., my father, belongs a beautiful life-size bronze bust, a copy of the Hermes of Praxiteles, found in the Temple of Hera within the Altis, the sacred precinct of the Olympian Zeus. Of the same size as the original, this copy, cast for, and imported by, Tiffany & Company, of New York, my sister and I will be pleased to give to Yale University, deeming it a suitable addition to the invaluable "Curtius Library."

I remember with satisfaction and pleasure the relationship, scholarly and social, that existed for many years between the faculty, instructors and graduates of Yale and my father. As for myself, a graduate of Columbia and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, some of my warmest friends are those of Yale.

Upon receipt of word that the proffered gift will be acceptable, I will send it, with its imported marble pedestal, to the university, by express, all charges prepaid. Awaiting your reply, I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Yours sincerely,

J. ACKERMAN COLES.

Under date of February 3d, President Dwight made answer:

Dear Sir,—In answer to your very kind letter of yesterday, I beg to express my most sincere thanks for the generous offer which it contains. On behalf of the university I accept the gift, which will be most appropriately connected with the Curtius Library, and will be most pleasantly commemorative of your honored father. The life and work of Professor Curtius were worthy of all honor on the part of all scholarly men, and it is very interesting to us at Yale University to know that his wife was pleased to have his library—in such striking manner a monument perpetuating his name—placed here in this distant land. She added to the library a gift of the portrait of her husband, and thus testified most kindly of her good will to us. The addition which you now make, and which is suggestive of Curtius' work and influence in connection with the excavations to which you refer, will be a new testimony to what he did. I am sure that Mrs. Curtius will be glad to know of your generous gift.

If you will kindly, at your convenience, send the bust to our library, as you suggest, we will be glad to give it a conspicuous place.

May I ask you to present to your sister, who unites with you in the gift, the assurances of my very high regard, and to request her to accept the expression of my thanks to you in this letter as also intended for herself.

Very sincerely yours,

TIMOTHY DWIGHT.

On receipt of this acceptance, the bronze and its pedestal were packed and sent, under the direction of Messrs. Tiffany & Company, to the university, and Dr. Coles received the following acknowledgment:

My Dear Sir,—I have the pleasure of announcing to you, that the bronze bust and its pedestal, forwarded at your request, by the Tiffany firm, have arrived and have been placed in a conspicuous position in our university library. The bust is very beautiful, and I beg you to accept for your sister and yourself my sincere thanks, for myself and on behalf of the trustees of the university, for your most interesting and valuable gift.

The portrait of Professor Curtius has been placed very near the bust, and these two memorials, in connection with the library, will be a testimony, to all who come to Yale, of scholarship and of generosity.

Believe me, very truly yours,

TIMOTHY DWIGHT.

June 27, 1897, Henry W. Farnam, Esq., of New Haven, Connecticut, writes to Dr. Coles:

Dear Sir,—As a member of our library committee, I desire to express to you my personal appreciation of your generosity in presenting to Yale the beautiful bronze copy of the Hermes, which now stands directly beneath the portrait of Professor Curtius.

I was attending the lectures of Professor Curtius, in Berlin, in 1876, when the Hermes was unearthed, and saw the first photograph that was sent out to the German directors of the excavations. I also knew Professor Curtius and his family personally. It was, therefore, especially gratifying to me that the acquisition of his library by Yale should have led you to complete the collection by sending us the Hermes.

Permit me to express my very warm thanks for your kindness and liberality, and believe me,

Yours most sincerely,

J. A. COLES, M. D., Newark, N. J.

HENRY W. FARNAM.

A special despatch to the New York Tribune, from New Brunswick, New Jersey, reads: "President Austin Scott, of Rutgers College, announced to the students this morning that J. Ackerman Coles, of Newark, had presented to the college a life-size bronze bust of George Washington, in memory of the late Dr. Abraham Coles. The bust is a replica of the famous marble statue executed from life, by Jean Antoine Houdon, for the state of Virginia, and now standing in the state capitol at Richmond. The bust is presented in commemoration of the support given, during the Revolution, to General Washington, by Rutgers College and the people of New Brunswick, and of the centennial meeting of the New Jersey Medical Society, held in the halls of Rutgers College, in 1866, at which time Dr. Abraham Coles was its president, and read his poem, 'The Microcosm.' The bust was cast in France, and was mounted by Tiffany. On motion of Dr. Jacob Cooper, and seconded by Dr. Van Dyke, the gratitude of the college was ordered expressed to Dr. Coles."

The president wrote to Dr. Coles:

My Dear Sir,—The board of trustees, at their recent meeting, requested me to convey to you the expression of their warmest thanks to yourself and your sister for your gift of the bronze bust of Washington. For the present it has been placed in the college chapel.

I am faithfully yours,

AUSTIN SCOTT.

To the general synod of the Reformed church in America, for its use in connection with the theological seminary of said church, located in New Brunswick, New Jersey, Dr. and Miss Coles have given a unique and beautiful work of sacred historic art, in memory of their grandfather, Jonathan C. Ackerman, as well as that of their father. It consists of a life-size marble group, representing Hagar and Ishmael in the wilderness of Beersheba. It is the masterpiece of Alessandro F. Cavazza, who executed the same in the purest Carrara marble, in Modena, Italy, in 1872. "Ishmael," says the New York Christian Intelligencer, "in his utter weakness, has loosened his hold upon Hagar's neck, and has fallen back apparently lifeless across her left knee. The relaxed muscles of the lad, his death-like countenance, the agonized look of his mother, and the many other minute details of finished expression, show the artist to have been in full sympathy with his subject, and to have possessed the skill and knowledge (anatomical and ecclesiastical) requisite for its accurate portrayal."

President Woodbridge was authorized to accept the gift and to assure the donors, on behalf of the board of superintendents and the faculty, that the gift would be highly appreciated. Later there was received by Dr. Coles and his sister the following:

GENERAL SYNOD, REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA, RARITAN, N. J., June 11, 1897.

I have been directed by the general synod to forward to you a copy of the following action, taken at its recent session held at Asbury Park, New Jersey. *Resolved*, That the general synod of the Reformed church in America hereby assures Dr. J. Ackerman Coles and Miss Emilie S. Coles that the gift of the statuary, representing Hagar and Ishmael, is fully appreciated, and that the thanks of the synod are hereby tendered to the generous donors.

Respectfully yours,

WILLIAM H. DE HART, Stated Clerk.

The Lewisburg (Pennsylvania) Chronicle refers to a recent gift, in the following language: "Bucknell (Lewisburg) University has received a very valuable gift in the shape of a life-size bust of Julius Cæsar, a bronze copy of the one in the Louvre, in Paris, France. It is mounted on an Italian-marble pedestal, and has been placed on exhibition in the college library. No other copy like it is believed to be in America. It is the gift of Dr. J. A. Coles and his sister, in memory of their father, the late Abraham Coles, M. D., Ph. D., LL. D., an honorary alumnus of the university." President John H. Harris, D. D., LL. D., wrote to Dr. J. A. Coles:

Dear Sir,—The bust of Julius Cæsar, with pedestal, arrived safely and has been put in place. The work evokes much admiration, and the feeling of gratitude to the generous givers is universal. Please accept our hearty thanks for your kind remembrance and generous gift.

Respectfully,

JOHN H. HARRIS.

A letter from Bishop John H. Vincent, chancellor of the Chautauqua University, to Dr. J. A. Coles, reads as follows:

CHAUTAUQUA, N. Y., July 14, 1897.

My Dear Doctor,—I send to the New York Tribune this evening a copy of the enclosed telegram. The bust and its marble pedestal are beautiful, and Chautauqua does really appreciate your great kindness.

Faithfully yours,

JOHN H. VINCENT.

"In connection with a great amphitheatre concert at Chautauqua, under the direction of Dr. Palmer, a life-size bronze bust of Beethoven, presented by Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, of Scotch Plains, New Jersey, was unveiled. Just before the unveiling, President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, delivered a brief address on music. As the veil was lifted, the amphitheatre gave the splendid Chautauqua salute, in honor of Beethoven and in recognition of Dr. J. Ackerman Coles and his sister. Immediately following this Mr. William H. Sherwood gave a piano solo,—the Sonata Appassionata, by Beethoven. The performance was brilliant. The Chautauqua salute was also given to Professor Sherwood."

"To the hall of marble statuary in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York," the New York Evangelist says, "Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, of Newark, who has added so largely of late to the art treasures of his own city, has made a couple of valuable gifts."

One gift is the famous statue, known as "The Promised Land," executed in Carrara marble, by the celebrated American artist, Franklin Simmons, at Rome, Italy, in 1874. A beautiful ideal life-

size female figure, gracefully robed, is designed to represent the earnest longing of the spirit for "The Promised Land," "The Better Country," "The Celestial City of Zion." Upon the plinth of the statue, which rests upon an elegantly paneled octagonal pedestal of dark Spanish marble, are inscribed four lines of the mediæval Latin hymn, "Urbs Cœlestis Sion," by St. Bernard of Cluny, with its translation, by the late Dr. Abraham Coles, the hymn and the translation being well known to scholars throughout the literary world. Daniel Huntington, the second vice-president of the museum, and chairman of the committee on sculpture, in recommending its acceptance by the board of trustees, wrote: "I am greatly pleased with the statue. It has a refined and spiritual character, as well as artistic grace and beauty."

The other gift from Dr. Coles, as executor of the estate of his father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles, is a Carrara marble copy, by P. Barzanti, of Florence, Italy, of the antique statue, "Venus de Medici." The original, it will be remembered, was found in the villa of Hadrian, at Tivoli, in the seventeenth century, and was taken to Rome, and deposited in the Medici palace, whence it took its name. About the year 1680 it III., to Florence. In 1796 Napoleon works of art, to France, and had Here it remained until 1815, when now the chief treasure in the tribune. It is of Parian marble, and Athenian, the son of Apollodorus, 150 B. C. From its exquisite tour, it has become the most extant. The copy, with its marble is considered to be equal in every the duke of Devonshire, at Chatsworth proffer to the museum, General director, wrote to Dr. Coles as

I have the honor to inform you committee on sculpture, the trustees of accepted your gift, and have instructed you an expression of their thanks for permitted to add that these thanks will people, to whose enjoyment and in and to which your gift is a valuable main,

Very sincerely yours,

Deerhurst, since their father occupied by Dr. Coles and his short distance," says the Boston farther on is the labyrinth, a facade-Court, near London, England. The mansion itself is substantial, elegant and beautiful, and replete with articles rich and rare, gathered in journeyings through foreign lands. The library is an ideal room. It is open to the roof, the rafters coming down in graceful sweeps, with here and there odd little windows, deeper ones reaching to the floor and opening upon balconies. On every side are books,—in massive cases, filling deep recesses; on shelves substantially built around corners and supported by ornamental columns, and on daintier shelves, arranged above one's head,—a vast and varied collection, in all languages, carefully and worthily bound." One very rare volume is remarkable as being the first book printed containing Arabic types, and is entitled, "Psalterium, Hebræum, Græcum, Arabicum et Chaldæum, cum tribus Latinis interpretationibus. Genuæ, Petrus Paulus Porrus, 1516." Folio, half green morocco. This, the first polyglot psalter, edited by Agostino Giustiniani, is important, also, as containing the first printed biography of Columbus. It is printed as a long marginal note to Psalm xix.

"The fine collection of paintings, curios and bric-a-brac, belonging to Dr. Coles," says the New York Tribune, "which has been on exhibition in the art gallery of the Coles homestead building, No. 222 Market street, Newark, for the past two weeks, for the benefit of the newsboys' building fund, is, without exception, one of the choicest collections in Newark, if not in New Jersey."

The art critic of "The Queen" says of the oil painting (ten feet by five feet), entitled "The Fall of Man," by Bouverie Goddard, and exhibited by him at the Royal Academy, London, England, in 1877:



THE PROMISED LAND.

was carried, by order of Cosmo leon Bonaparte sent it, with other it placed in the Louvre, at Paris. it was returned to Italy, and is one of the Uffizi gallery at Florence was executed by Cleomenes, the who flourished between 200 and proportions and perfection of celebrated standard of female form ble pedestal, given by Dr. Coles, respect to the one in the gallery of worth, England. Soon after its Louis P. Di Cesnola, secretary and follows:

that, upon the recommendation of the the Metropolitan Museum of Art have their executive committee to convey to your generosity. In doing so, I may be be constantly hereafter repeated by the struction the Museum of Art is devoted, contribution. With high regards, I re-

L. P. DI CESNOLA, Secretary.

ther's death, has continued to be sister. "Back from the house a Transcript, "is the deer park; simile of the maze, at Hampton

Second to no picture painted since Sir Edwin Landseer's palmy days, in which animal forms and character have been represented and expressed on canvas, is Mr. Goddard's truly noble "Fall of Man." In the distance appears the vision of the celestial warrior-guardians of the gate of that blissful garden, no longer the home of the fallen ones, from which, for the first time conscious of the fierce instincts of their nature, various animals are rushing away in amazement and alarm.

"The picture portrays," says the Academy, "the savagery of the brute nature ensuing upon the disobedience of Adam and Eve. * * * The difficulty of Mr. Goddard's attempt becomes all the greater, in that he does not represent any actual attack of one animal upon another, but only the moment when the attacking and ravenous impulse arises and manifests itself in gesture and demeanor."

"We have not, for a long time, met with a picture of animals by an Englishman," says the *Athenæum*, "showing so much care, energy, and learning, as Mr. B. Goddard's 'The Fall of Man,' in which the life-size beasts, terrified by the portents attending 'The Fall,' rush from the neighborhood of Eden, new ferocity being manifested by their actions and expressions."

The *London Times* says: "One is at first puzzled to account for the tremendous commotion among Mr. Bouverie Goddard's wild beasts, carried to its height in a powerfully designed and well painted foreground group of a lion, lioness and cubs, till we learn, more from the title than from the extract of Milton, appended to it, that, such was the effect produced among the beasts of the forest by the 'Fall of Man.' They are supposed to sympathize with the signs in the heavens, the eclipsed sun, the lowering sky, the muttering thunder, and sad drops 'wept at the completing of the mortal sin.'"

Of the second painting, named "The Combat," or "A Bull Fight in the Vale," (seven feet by four feet,) painted in 1870, and exhibited the same year in the Royal Academy, the *London Times*, of May 30, 1870, said: "After Sir Edwin's animal pictures, and, perhaps, Mr. B. Riviere's 'Charity,' there is nothing in the way of animal painting here so remarkable for the way the painter has brought landscape and animals into harmonious imaginative conditions as Mr. B. Goddard's 'Combat'—a couple of bulls in deadly encounter on the margin of a river, under a stormy sunset sky, watched by an excited and eager herd of cows. Full of action, original in grouping, and forcible in light and shade, this really is a powerful picture, an excellent illustration of the wealth of subject that lies yet undrawn upon in the wide range of animal life."

A third painting (nine feet by five feet), by Goddard, "A sale of New Forest Ponies at Lyndhurst Fair, England," is regarded by critics as equal in many respects to the "Horse Fair," by Rosa Bonheur.

The collection includes, also, works by the following artists: G. P. A. Healy, "The Arch of Titus," Rome, 1871 (canvas forty-eight inches by seventy-three inches), in which the poet Longfellow and his daughter are seen standing under the arch, while the artist F. E. Church is seated sketching, with G. P. A. Healy and J. McEntee looking over his shoulder; all excellent portraits; through the arch a magnificent view is had of the Colosseum beyond. J. F. Cropsey (five), Corfe Castle, England (seven feet by five feet); "Lake Nemi and Village on the Appian Way, Italy" (six feet by four feet), also three other landscapes. Albert Bierstadt (five), "Mount Hood, in Oregon, at Sunset" (six feet by four feet), in merit and beauty thought to be equal to his "Rocky Mountains;" "Mount Hood, Oregon, with storm approaching;" "Niagara Falls from Goat Island;" "Mount Blanc, from near Geneva, Switzerland;" "Dieppé, near the Club House, France." Daniel Huntington (three)—one a life-size portrait of Abraham Coles,—A. T. Bricher (two), J. F. Kensett, Hans Makart, F. E. Church, J. E. Freeman, E. Verboeckhoven, A. F. A. Schenck, M. F. H. DeHaas, Jones' "Niagara," Thomas Moran, Edward Moran (two), H. P. Smith, James M. Hart, William Hart, Julian Scott, Edward Gay, George Inness, W. S. Hazeltine, John Constable, R. A., Brunery, L. Verboeckhoven, A. Reinert, Paul Jean Clays, Jan Chilmisky, J. Carabain (two), H. De Buel, Rosa Bonheur (pen and ink sketch), J. H. L. De Haas, Edward Portielge, B. C. Koekkoek, J. G. Brown, N. V. Diaz de la Pena, J. B. C. Corot, Constant Troyon, Theodore Rousseau (two), George Jeannin, Eugene Fichel, Georges Washington, Julian Dupre, Jules Dupre (two), Charles Jacque, G. L. Pelouse, C. F. Daubigny, Karl Daubigny, H. Delacroix (two), F. De Vere, Lazerges, V. G. Stiepevich, Jean Francis Millet, Anton Mauve, Felix Ziem, R. Eisermann, "The Trumpeter of Sackingen" (six feet seven inches by four feet six inches); others are attributed to Rembrandt, Peter Pourbus (1510-1583), David Teniers, David Teniers, the younger (1610-1690) (two); Dubois, Til Borg (1625-1678), Luca Giordano (1632-1701), "Europa" (six feet by five feet), from Prince Borghese sale, Rome, a fair rival of the artist's painting in the Berlin Gallery; Jean Steen, Gerhard Douw, Hans Memling (1440-1495), the eminent decorator of missals and church books; Jacob Backer (1609-1651), pupil of Rembrandt, "The Antiquarian" (six feet by four feet six inches), remarkable for its realism and as illustrative of the permanency of colors used by the old masters; Ostade, Minderhout Hobbima (born at Antwerp about 1611), a small landscape of much grace and beauty; Holbein (1498-1543), portrait of his patron, Henry VIII. of England; Salvator Rosa; Ribera (1588-

1656), Gerard (1770-1837), David Cox (1783-1859), etc., etc. Also from the Exposition Universelle, Paris, 1879, the pair of Austrian ovoid porcelain vases, king's blue ground, with embossed gold ornamentation, fifty-four inches high by thirty inches in diameter, painted with figures and landscape subjects by Eugene Poitevin, at Sevres. Also the two celebrated elaborate fine Roman mosaics, each thirty-one inches by sixty-one inches long, made by C. Roccheggiani at Rome, 1873—one representing the Roman Forum, Colosseum, etc., the other St. Peter's, the Vatican, etc., each mosaic weighing nearly half a ton—very beautiful and very valuable.

The marble statuary includes life-size busts of Abraham Coles, by J. Q. A. Ward; William Harvey, by Horatio Stone; Walter Scott, by Chantrey, a copy of the one at Abbotsford; Eve and Charity, by Hiram Powers; a full-length statue of the Hebrew prophetess, Deborah, by Lombardi; Martin Luther; a large copy of the Warwick Vase, in Carrara marble; the Village Blacksmith, full length figure, by Shakespeare Wood; the Venus of Melos, half of the size of the original in the Louvre, cast in bronze for Dr. Coles, at the foundry of Barbedienne; also bronzes by Barye, A. Gaudetz, P. J. Mene, A. Mercie, Fournier, E. Pigault, G. Bareau, L. Gregoire, etc.

After the exhibition, which was a success, the committee having the matter in hand purchased a large, comfortable, brick and stone home for the newsboys, receiving five hundred dollars from Dr. Coles toward paying for same.

August, 1897, Dr. Coles wrote:

REV. JOHN WILLIAMS, D. D., LL. D., Chancellor of Trinity College.

Dear Sir,—Belonging to the estate of my father, the late Abraham Coles, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., LL. D., is a very beautiful life-size bust of Mozart, the first and only one in bronze cast from the original model. It was made for and imported by Messrs. Tiffany & Company, of New York city. To Trinity, as representative of the Protestant Episcopal colleges in America, I, as executor of my father's estate, my sister, Emilie S. Coles, cordially concurring, will be pleased to give this bronze, with its imported marble pedestal, as a memorial of the affectionate regard that existed between my father and yourself while you were president, professor and chancellor of Trinity, dean of Berkeley Divinity School, chairman of the house of bishops and bishop of the diocese of Connecticut, from which state came the founders of the city of Newark, in 1666.

The correspondence carried on between yourself and my father, relative to the latter's "unequaled translations" of the "Dies Iræ," has suggested the seemingly eminent propriety of giving to Trinity the bust of "that great composer by whose means this immortal poem has come to be worthily wedded to immortal music."

As a graduate of Columbia, I am personally gratified in knowing that my alma mater honored herself in honoring you, in 1851, with the degree of LL. D. Upon notification that the proffered gifts will be acceptable to the trustees of Trinity College, I will have the bust and its pedestal boxed by Messrs. Tiffany & Company, and sent as you may direct, by express, all charges prepaid. Awaiting your reply, I am, with great respect,

Yours sincerely,

J. ACKERMAN COLES, Executor.

Replying to Dr. Coles, Ralph Birdsall, secretary to the Bishop, said: "Bishop Williams thanks you very much for your kind proposition, and when the fall term begins at Trinity College he will send notification, that proper action may be taken in the premises." Under a later date George Williamson Smith, D. D., LL. D., president of Trinity College, writes to Dr. Coles: "A letter just received from Bishop Williams informs me of your kind offer to present to Trinity College 'a life-size bronze bust of Mozart' from the estate of your father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles. We shall be very glad to have such a valuable addition to our rather meager collection of objects of art, and place it in Alumni Hall, where the portraits of benefactors and presidents are hung."

From Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, October 2, 1897, President Smith wrote: "The boxes containing the bronze bust of Mozart and its marble pedestal have been opened and the work is placed in Alumni Hall, where it attracts attention and awakens great admiration. I beg leave to thank you in the name of the college, and will report the gift to the trustees at their next meeting."

To Amherst College Dr. Coles has given, from his father's estate, an heroic-size bust of Virgil, the only known bronze copy of the original in the museum of the Louvre. It was cast at the foundry of Barbedienne, Paris, purposely for Dr. Coles, by order of Tiffany & Company, and by them was appropriately mounted on an imported pedestal of dark Italian marble. President Merrill E. Gates, Ph. D., L. H. D., LL. D., in his acknowledgment of the gift wrote: "The bust has great and exceptional value in itself, and coming from you, in memory of your father, his regard for Amherst and his relations with us in the past, it will have a double value."

Dr. Coles sent, also, recently, a valuable bronze and pedestal to the home of Washington, at Mount Vernon, the receipt of which gift has been courteously acknowledged.

The New York Observer says: "Dr. Coles has given princely gifts of art to public and educational institutions, but none more appropriate or better appreciated than his donation to the public,

of a superb bronze bust of his distinguished father, the late Abraham Coles, physician, poet, author and scientist, which, with its pedestal of historic and religious interest, was unveiled in Newark, July 5, 1897."

The following "Tribute," by M. Winchester Adams, is from the Newark Daily Advertiser:

With thankfulness for the sweet hymns
To comfort "all the days,"
And admiration in our hearts,
Upon his face we gaze.
He is not dead—no one is dead—
Whose voice speaks through all time,
In adoration, faith and love,
In ev'ry clime.

The little children, whom he loved,
Stop oft to read the song,
"The Rock of Ages," wondrous words,
So true and grand and strong.

It gives the weary pilgrim strength,
"God's mercy standeth fast,"
His promises "from age to age"
For aye shall last.

"Ever with Thee," what perfect faith
Abounds throughout the hymn;
No more of sorrow, night or fear,
Or tears the eye to dim.
'T will comfort many, long years hence,—
Whose lives have shadows gray,—
And they will breathe a prayer of thanks,
As I, to-day.

"As a gift for the new building, to be erected at the head of Washington Park, in Newark, New Jersey, for the free public library, Dr. Coles," says The Republican (Springfield, Massachusetts), "has ordered Messrs. Tiffany & Company, of New York city, to have cast in bronze at the foundry of Barbedienne, France, a life-size bronze bust of George Washington, from the original model by Jean Antoine Houdon, whose full-length statue of Washington in marble, modeled from life at Mount Vernon, by order of the state of Virginia, is in the capitol at Richmond. When the library building shall be ready for the reception of the bust cast especially for it, Dr. Coles will give also a pedestal of marble and bronze, in harmony with its subject and in keeping with the architecture of the entrance hall, or other site decided upon as most proper for its location."

"On February 22, 1898," says the Morris County Chronicle, "Washington's birthday was celebrated at the headquarters of the Washington Association at Morristown. Austin Scott, LL. D., president of Rutgers College, delivered an able address on Washington. Jonathan W. Roberts, president of the Washington Association, then briefly announced the receipt of a valuable bronze from Dr. J. Ackerman Coles, of Newark, and called upon the donor for some remarks concerning the same." Dr. Coles said:

As executor of the estate of my father, I would have been derelict in the discharge of my duty if, in the distribution of works of art to the various institutions of learning he loved, I had omitted to remember Washington's Headquarters, at Morristown, New Jersey, a building that is said to have sheltered more statesmen, military and naval heroes connected with our war for independence than any other house in America; the home where for many months Martha Washington, as hostess, hospitably entertained her husband's guests; where Alexander Hamilton, during the winter of 1779, met, laid siege to and won the heart of the daughter of General Schuyler; where, from time to time, gathered members of the continental congress, in front of which mansion Washington's bodyguard of one hundred Virginians kept watch day and night. In every room and on every wall are objects of historic interest. Therefore, Mr. President, I esteem it a privilege and a pleasure to be permitted to add something thereto, and, as a member of the Washington Association, in memory of my father, the late Dr. Abraham Coles, I now proffer for your acceptance the bronze medallion, bearing the stamp of Tiffany & Company, and entitled "Triumviri Americani," representing in bas-relief life-size portraits of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant, and designated also, respectively, "Pater, 1789-93," "Salvator, 1861-65," "Custos, 1869-73"—father, saviour and preserver, of the republic.

Upon vote, the gift was unanimously accepted, with many thanks. For the officers and graduates of Andover, Massachusetts, Dr. Abraham Coles entertained both high regard and affection, and he often referred to the zeal, earnestness and devotion of Judson, Newell, Nott, Hall, Mills, Richards, Rice and others, that finally resulted in the founding, January 28, 1810, of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions. To the trustees of Andover Theological Seminary Dr. Coles has sent, as a gift from his father's estate, a life-size bust of Mendelssohn, whose oratorios of "St. Paul" and "Elijah" have made their author's name immortal. The bust is the first made and probably only copy in bronze of the original in the Louvre. It was cast at the Barbedienne foundry, in Paris, especially for Dr. Coles, by order of Tiffany & Company.

In 1878 Emilie S. Coles published the Mission Band Hymnal, consisting for the most part of hymns written by her father, at her request, to be sung to his favorite tunes. One of her own together with some of her father's composing were subsequently incorporated in Hymns of the Ages, an excellent work compiled by the Rev. Robert P. Kerr, D. D., of Richmond, Virginia, for the use of the churches, especially those at the south. The preface to this work is written by the Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D. D., who was a beloved companion in foreign travel of the late Dr. Coles. Two of the

hymns by Dr. Coles in this volume are "When Jesus speaks, so sweet the sound, the harps of heaven are hushed to hear" (Migdol, L. M., Arr., L. Mason), and the "Hymn of Dedication," beginning "We can not build alone" (Brooklyn, H. M.—J. Zundel). We give below the words of the familiar hymn known by the name "Adoration," composed and written by Miss Coles, to the tune "Berlin" (Mendelssohn's Songs without Words), but in "Hymns of the Ages" set to the tune of "Eventide," by W. H. Monk, and to Troyte's Chant No. 1.

Now lift we Hymns of heart-felt praise to Thee,
Our King, Redeemer, Saviour, Brother, Friend!
And when Thy face we, in Thy likeness, see,
Our adoration-song shall never end:

Then shall we sing—when with our God we reign,
Serving Thee, ever, in most holy ways—

"Worthy the Lamb who once for us was slain!"
That Song, forever new, of ceaseless praise.

While here we tarry in this world of need,
Seeking the lost ones who in darkness roam,
Thy little flock, Good Shepherd, gently lead,
And bear Thy lambs in safety to Thy Home.

"As executor of his father's estate," says the Philadelphia Inquirer, "Dr. Coles has recently given to the Newark Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary two six per cent. gold bonds, the interest only of the principal to be used annually for the purchase of surgical instruments of the best and most approved workmanship."

Soon after Admiral Dewey's victory in Manila bay, J. Ackerman Coles sent him as a gift an allegorical bronze, appropriately mounted by Messrs. Tiffany & Company, who, for a week, devoted an entire window in their New York was extensively photographed and press. The Army and Navy Journal Governor's Island, New York, refers to the two nations in character nation is emblemized by an eagle of ing wings, watching and ready for craggy summit of a rock, which "Commodore George Dewey, U. S. ron, Olympia, Baltimore, Raleigh, loch." Stretched over a mass of the foot of the crag lies the quarry, the present condition of her power twelve feathers in the tail of the vessels constituting the Spanish destroyed or completely disabled in and 4.

The allegorical group is of nent French sculptor and artist, His allegorical statues and figures and in the Corcoran Gallery, Wash of his anatomical knowledge and habits of animals and birds. "Of all birds," says Pliny, "the eagle is the most noble." Caius Marius assigned the eagle exclusively to the Roman legions. The heron, on the contrary, is reputed to be ignoble and cruel, using its dagger-like bill upon friend and foe, to torture rather than to slay. According to the English naturalist, J. G. Wood, a tame heron, after being placed in an aviary with five owls, blinded four and destroyed one eye of the fifth. Engraved on the memorial are the names of the captains and commanders of the several vessels of the Asiatic squadron; also the names of the president and vice-president, United States of America, the latter also as president of the United States senate; the speaker of the house of representatives, the secretary of war, the attorney general and the secretary of the navy.

Admiral Dewey acknowledged the receipt of the gift in the following letter:

FLAGSHIP OLYMPIA, MANILA, P. I., August 25, 1898.

J. ACKERMAN COLES, A. B., A. M., M. D.

Dear Sir,—I have the pleasure to announce to you the safe arrival of the beautiful bronze statue and bracket made by Messrs. Tiffany & Company. As no letter of advice has accompanied it, I shall have to forward this through the makers. The statue will be placed in a most prominent place in my cabin, where all who enter may admire it as much as we all do. It is a beautiful work of art and I thank you most sincerely for such a princely souvenir.

Hoping that I may, at some not distant date, have the pleasure of thanking you in person, I am,

Very sincerely,

GEORGE DEWEY.



BRONZE PRESENTED TO ADMIRAL DEWEY
BY DR. COLES.

It favorably commented upon by the nal and that of the Military Service, to it as follows: The bronze sym- istic representation. The American majestic bearing, with overshadow-immediate action; it rests upon the bears on its face the inscription, N., Commanding the Asiatic Squad- Boston, Concord, Petrel, McCul- other insulated rocks in front and at a dead heron, symbolizing Spain and over the Philippine islands, the bird tallying with the number of fleet, including the water battery, the harbor of Manila, May 1, 2, 3

bronze, and is the work of the emi- Antoine Louis Barye (1795-1875). in the museum of the Louvre Paris, ington, D. C., attest the accuracy his intimate acquaintance with the

RUFUS P. RANNEY,

CLEVELAND, OHIO.



HERE are occasions in the growth of peoples and nations when social and political character are in a formative or nascent state, and more than ordinarily susceptible to external circumstances. The dominant minds of the period make lasting impressions for weal or for woe upon the great body politic. The adoption of a new constitution in the state of Ohio in the year 1851 was an event of unusual importance to the political development of that commonwealth. The old framework of government, constructed in the crude pioneer days, was adequate for conditions then existing, but unsuited to a modern and progressive life. By common consent it was to be discarded, to be superseded by a new political fabric. The creation of this constitution of 1851, since conceded to be one of the most admirable ever constructed for a free and enlightened people, was the result of combined wisdom; but while the names of most of the delegates to the assembly that framed it have long since been forgotten, there is one that stands forth imperishable in its association with this great constructive chart of civil liberty. Rufus P. Ranney of Cleveland, then comparatively unknown, gave to the question of polity involved an earnestness of application, a clearness and comprehension of vision, a mastering force of intellect, guided by conscience and by devotion to the interests of the common people, that left a controlling and abiding impression upon the constitution. This public service, so unstintingly performed, was in itself one which would entitle Judge Ranney to the gratitude of a discerning people. It was, however, only an incident in his eventful and brilliant career. It gave him prestige with the profession in which he was easily master and leader. But the common people had to learn more slowly, by unostentatious service, oftentimes repeated, the noble qualities of heart which have endeared his memory. Like all truly great lawyers he kept close to the people. Like Abraham Lincoln he believed in the integrity of the people.

His early struggles had welded into lasting sympathy this generous attribute of his nature, for Judge Ranney in his youth had felt the iron hand of circumstance. He had endured the hardships and privations of pioneer life. His ancestry was Scotch, with a New England setting of several generations. He was born at Blandford, Hampden county, Massachusetts, October 30, 1813. In common with many other New England farmers, his father was attracted by the promises of the rich western country and in 1822, when Rufus was a boy of nine years, he emigrated with his family, by slow and difficult journey, to the Western Reserve of Ohio, selecting a farm near the present village of Freedom, Portage county. The home life of the boy was that experienced in similar frontier settlements. The dwelling was a small log cabin, surrounded by the forest. Wolves and bears abounded, menacing domestic animals and giving zest to the life of the adventurous youth. There were at first no roads, no schools and no churches. Privations of all kinds must be endured. The Ranney home was supplied with a few standard books, which the family had not neglected to bring with them from the New England home. Young Rufus fed upon these, and early in life manifested a strong desire for an education. The pioneers believed in education, but its attainment was possible only to the most determined and courageous. There was timber to be cleared for the planting of crops essential to their sustenance.



H. P. Ramsey

There were no public funds and few private means available for educational purposes, and in the first six years of his residence in Ohio young Ranney received only one winter's schooling. He determined, if it was at all possible, to have an education. The mind of the young man readily absorbed the books of nature, and in the learning of the backwoods he was an adept. But this was insufficient for the practice of law, a profession which he had decided to adopt. As a means of obtaining a preliminary collegiate training, he chopped wood for a neighbor, at a compensation of twenty-five cents a cord, and with the first proceeds of this labor he purchased a Virgil and a razor. By slow accumulation he obtained sufficient means to secure his enrollment as a student at Western Reserve College, and he remained in attendance for one year, supporting himself by manual labor and teaching. "It was pathetic, as well as amusing," wrote an old friend, "to hear him tell of his first appearance in college in a suit of homespun butternut." Through lack of means he was unable to complete his college course,—much to his regret. In the spring of 1834, when twenty years of age, he entered the law office of Joshua R. Giddings and Benjamin F. Wade as a student. "His preparation for the study of the law," remarked Judge Williamson, "had been a hard and at times a bitter experience, but there was no reason to regret it." After two and a half years of study he was admitted to practice by the supreme court of Ohio. Soon afterward Mr. Giddings was elected to congress and the partnership between him and Mr. Wade was dissolved. Upon Mr. Wade's suggestion he and young Ranney entered into partnership, and for about ten years the firm of Wade & Ranney had an extensive business and was the leading law firm in northeastern Ohio. In 1845 Mr. Wade was elected judge of the court of common pleas. Soon afterward Mr. Ranney removed from Ashtabula county to Warren, Trumbull county, then a chief center of business and wealth, and for several years he engaged in the practice of law alone. Here he married Miss Adeline Warner, the daughter of Judge Jonathan Warner, of Jefferson, Ashtabula county. In 1846 and again in 1848 he was nominated as a candidate for congress, but his party was in hopeless minority and the opposing candidate was elected.

While thus engaged in the practice of law Mr. Ranney found time to supply to some extent the deficiencies of his early education. He became interested in the French language and made an extended research into the literature, politics, history and laws of that nation. He became thoroughly familiar with the Code Napoleon, and the knowledge was to be of service in the work in which he was about to engage.

In 1850 he was elected from Trumbull and Geauga counties a member of the convention called to revise the state constitution. In this convention he was made a member of the committee on the judicial department, chairman of the committee on future amendments to the constitution and chairman of the committee on revision, enrollment and arrangement. On the first named committee he was associated with Messrs. Kennon, Swan, Stanbury and Groesbeck. On all the committees on which he served he was vigilant and untiring in his efforts to secure the enactment of those provisions which he deemed essential to the liberty and welfare of the people. In conviction he was an intense democrat, not in the partisan sense of the word, although he held fealty to the party of that name, but in the more liberal meaning of government by the people. He favored every proposition looking to the limitation of power by the executive and the legislature, except in delegating to the legislature authority to restrain encroachments upon the rights of the people. When his position in this regard was called into question and the struggle of the English people for more legislative power was cited as an instance of the need for this action, his usual reply was that in Great Britain all power exercised by the legislative bodies was taken from the monarch, while in this country it was taken from the people. There the people would not fail to gain by legislative action; here they could not fail to lose. He was the author of that clause in the bill of rights which provides that when private property is condemned the compensation therefor shall be assessed by a jury without deduction for benefits to any property of the owner. He experienced a sense of keen disappointment when he found, some years later, that an entire street could be taken from the land of one person, and that such person could be required to return to the public the whole amount of compensation received, together with the cost of condemning his land, under the guise of a special assessment.

It was Judge Ranney who first proposed that the creditors of corporations should be secured by the individual liability of stockholders. Many delegates agreed with him that, as an abstract principle, stockholders should be responsible for the debts of their corporation, but contended that as a matter of policy it would be injudicious to so provide in the constitution. In reply to this position Judge Ranney used withering sarcasm, and described it "a most miserable swap" that would barter away the principles with the view of prematurely pushing forward public improvement. Most eloquently he denounced the abandonment of political principle in matters of legislation. The reformation of civil

procedure he earnestly favored. The jargon and mystery of forms and technicalities did not in his estimation constitute the groundwork of the legal profession. A knowledge of the science of law he deemed a requisite for the ideal lawyer, and he believed this could be best promoted by sweeping away the multitudinous cobwebs which under the old common-law practice surrounded every action. Thereby he believed the rights of man and of property and all the varied relations of life could best be subserved. On these and on most other propositions that came before the convention for action Judge Ranney entertained strong convictions, and when the work was finally performed it bore marked evidence of his influence in the convention. This is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that he was one of the younger members, for he was only thirty-seven years of age at the time, and that in the convention were many of the foremost lawyers of the state. It illustrates the wonderful personality of the man and the remarkable bent of his mind toward a thorough mastery of law as a science. There were portions of the constitution which did not meet with his approval, but he recognized its value as a whole. In the closing hour of the convention he took occasion to say that after a careful review of the whole instrument, of all its parts, of every line and word, he believed before God and man, that it was one of the best, if not the best, of the constitutions of the American states and that if the people of Ohio were not well governed thereafter it would be the fault of the people, for the whole responsibility then and thereafter was upon them. Two great objects had been accomplished. The convention had delegated as little power as possible to the legislature, for this power, in the opinion of Judge Ranney and of those who believed as he did, was liable to abuse. Again, the constitution, instead of limiting itself to homilies upon human rights or recommending propositions to the general assembly, had made the constitution a body of laws, prescribing also the details necessary to carry them out. With the judicial article Judge Ranney was not satisfied, although he succeeded in securing important modifications to the plan first presented by the committee. Speaking of this article, Judge Williamson said:

He devoted his best thought to it, and gave more labor and attention to it than to any other part of the constitution. His chief objection to it was that it removed the courts of last resort too far from the people. The plan of the judiciary committee contemplated a supreme court of four judges; the chief justice to be elected by the voters of the state at large, and one of the associate judges in each of the three districts into which the state was to be divided; district courts in each of the nine districts into which the state was to be divided, composed of the supreme judge and common-pleas judges; common-pleas courts of three judges in each district, and a county court in each county, and justices of the peace. Ranney objected to a system which looked to an appeal from the justices of the peace through three courts to the supreme court sitting at Columbus. He objected to county courts with such limited jurisdiction that one of the best friends of the proposed system had spoken of them as a "legal monstrosity and a judicial nuisance." He objected to the district courts because they might be held at one place only in the district, and consequently lawyers and witnesses might be compelled to travel a hundred miles for trial. But, most of all, he objected to the supreme court, because it was to become substantially a court of errors, sitting at Columbus. Such leaders of the profession as Kennon, Swan and Stanbury wanted a court at the seat of government, surrounded by a splendid bar, and not "stirrup judges" traveling from county to county. Ranney differed with them radically. He looked upon the circuit system as absolutely indispensable. In his judgment a mere paper court would become but little better than mere papers themselves, and might as well be filed away in some secure place in the capitol. It was an insurmountable objection that no judge of the court was ever to participate in a trial, face a jury, see the parties, hear the witnesses, study human nature as exhibited in a trial at court, or mingle with the people. He also wanted the effect of the circuit system upon the people because he believed that no court could acquire that power, dignity, influence and authority in the eyes of the people which it ought to have, unless it acts among the people, performs its duties in their sight and places in their view the practical workings of the system of judicial power which acts upon and protects their interests. He and others who agreed with him were able to secure the abandonment of the county courts, for which probate courts were substituted, and a provision requiring district courts to be held in every county. This was justly considered a great triumph, but they were unable to secure any substantial change in the duties of the supreme-court judges, who, as business increased, were gradually withdrawn from district-court duty until they composed simply a court of errors, sitting at Columbus. Of course some of the evils which Ranney anticipated have been overcome, partially at least, by the facilities for travel, but is it not still a serious question whether the best results are likely to be reached by a court shut up in a room in the capitol, composed of judges who never hear witnesses testify, who read charges to the jury but never hear them, and who are so absorbed in the science of law that they are apt to overlook the practical methods by which lawsuits are won and lost?

His duties as a law-maker ended, Judge Ranney returned to the practice of his profession. But he was not permitted to remain at the bar. In March, 1851, he was elected, by the state legislature, judge of the supreme court, to succeed Judge Avery, who had resigned. The new constitution had been accepted by the people and became effective September 1, 1851. At the first election thereafter, in October, 1851, Judge Ranney was elected one of the five judges of the new supreme court. The terms were assigned by lot, and the longest term, five years, fell to Judge Ranney. One of the important duties of this new court was to pass upon a number of questions involving the new constitution. It was fortunate, indeed, that one who was so familiar with the constitution as Judge

Ranney now sat upon the supreme bench. Judge Ranney served until 1856, when he resigned. He removed from Warren to Cleveland and resumed practice, as senior member of the firm of Ranney, Backus & Noble. He was soon afterward appointed United States district attorney, but after serving for a few months he tendered his resignation. In 1859 he was the unsuccessful candidate for the office of governor of Ohio, against William Dennison. In 1862 he permitted the use of his name upon the Democratic state ticket as candidate for judge of the supreme court. Upon the Republican ticket was the name of his law partner, Franklin T. Backus. Much to his own surprise Judge Ranney was elected. It was said that both candidates for this high honor were disappointed,—Judge Ranney at his election, Mr. Backus at his failure to be elected. Though not desirous of the ermine again, Judge Ranney qualified and served for two years. At the expiration of that time he resigned and once more returned to private life and to the practice of his profession. This closed his service as an expounder of the laws of his state,—a service that it is difficult to find equaled in the decisions of state tribunals. The decisions of Judge Ranney have a weight that is recognized by the bench and bar, not only in his own state, but throughout the entire country. He made a deep and permanent impression upon the jurisprudence of Ohio. A distinguishing trait was his grasp of general principles in preference to decided cases. Decisions had weight only as they illustrated some general principle, but for the latter he had all due respect. Resemblances in cases were often accidental and misleading. He enjoyed the problem of some great constitutional or legal question and gave to its solution a largeness and keenness of view, beneath which difficulties rapidly melted away. He possessed a wonderful capacity for concentrated work, and the dispatch and accuracy with which business was disposed of under his administration of justice was rarely surpassed. The old supreme court, under the leadership of Judge Peter Hitchcock, was acknowledged one of the ablest where the common law prevailed. It took practical views of the law, and these views were widely accepted and applied to a great variety of cases. Judge Ranney found himself in thorough sympathy with these broad decisions.

One characteristic of the old supreme court was its disposition to sustain the titles of occupants of land under generally acknowledged titles, whether strictly legal or not, as against those who sought to gain possession under technical rights after the lapse of years. The tendency of the court in Judge Ranney's time is shown by his opinion in the case of Lessee of Blake versus Davis. The title of the plaintiff came from a married woman. The title of the defendant came through an administrator's sale, which had no validity. An allotment had been made by the trustees of the district, known as the Ohio Company's Purchase, and the plaintiff claimed that the woman, who was his grantor, was entitled to the benefit of the presumption that a deed had been delivered in pursuance of the allotment. The court conceded that this claim was well founded if the plaintiff was in a position to avail himself of it; but after a careful review of all the authorities Judge Ranney said that the whole doctrine rested upon the idea that titles and possessions are to be quieted, not disturbed, by it; that right and justice are protected in its application, not injured,—in short, that it is only what ought to be done that can be considered as done. Referring to the plaintiff's grantor, he said: "She has no legal advantage, but now seeks, by presumption, to get it. To get it she must present an honest, not a technical, case. She cannot in honesty take this land from the occupants while her father's estate was relieved by the very money that paid for it, and when she had acquiesced in the action of the administrator for more than half a century. I know it is said that she is a married woman, but I have yet to learn that even a married woman has a *right to do wrong*. We take from her none of her rights; we only prevent her from taking the rights of others."

The habit of mind which was manifested in great respect for titles to land acquired by long possession under well recognized titles was shown in an equal respect for decisions of courts which have become rules of property. "It is very evident," he said, in the case of Kearney versus Buttles, "that the simplest justice to our predecessors, as well as the public, should prevent us from interfering with decisions deliberately made, merely because a difference of opinion might exist between them and as upon a doubtful and difficult question of construction. But when, as in this case, the decision had relation to large amounts of a species of property which assumes a value in the market, changes hands, and is dealt with upon the confidence reposed in the correctness of the decision of the highest judicial tribunal in the state, nothing short of the most urgent necessity to prevent injustice, or vindicate clear and obvious principles of law, would justify us in departing from it."

Again, referring to the decisions of the supreme court in favor of purchasers at administration sales, that actual service upon the minor heir is not necessary, he said (Sheldon versus Newton): "These decisions have stood as the law of the state for more than twenty years. During all that time they have constituted rules of property, and upon the faith of them men have invested their

money. If ever an urgent case for the application of the maxim, *stare decisis*, existed, this is one. It is not enough that we should doubt their correctness, or that we should decide differently if the question was for the first time presented. It must be made to appear, clearly and unquestionably, that the rules of law have been violated and the rights of the parties disregarded, before we could justify ourselves in questioning their authority." "No one," said Judge Williamson, "was more competent than Judge Ranney to deal with the practical questions which had to be settled by the application of the rules of law to the changing conditions incident to the rapid development of a new country and the introduction of new methods of trade and transportation. Acting upon the well settled principle that contracts in restraint of trade are void when general, but may be enforced when the restraint is partial, reasonable and not oppressive, and founded upon a valuable consideration, he settled the law for Ohio that a covenant not to sell or manufacture in the United States, or a state, was void, but might be very properly extended to a whole county, if the other requisites to its validity should exist. Such a rule is in its nature more or less arbitrary, but this has been found to afford a fair protection to the interests of the party in favor of whom the restraint exists; and not so large as to interfere with the interests of the public; and it has been accepted by the courts of other states as a practical guide in determining the validity of contracts in restraint of trade." Upon Judge Ranney devolved the duty of defining authoritatively the liability of common carriers who undertake to relieve themselves of their common-law liability by special contracts, although there were some *obiter dicta* to the same effect in a previous case. He rested his conclusions upon a clear statement of the underlying principle. In the case of *Graham versus Davis* he said: "There is nothing in which the public has a deeper interest than the careful and prudent management of public conveyances, and no higher moral obligation than rests upon those entrusted with the control of dangerous forces, to discharge their duties with care and skill. Upon it the safety of thousands of lives and millions of property daily depends. Now one of the strongest motives for the faithful performance of these duties is found in the pecuniary responsibility which the carrier incurs for his failure. It induces him to furnish safe and suitable equipments and to employ careful and competent agents. A contract, therefore, with one to relieve him from any part of this responsibility reaches beyond the person with whom he contracts and affects all who place their persons or property in his custody. It is immoral, because it diminishes the motives for the performance of a high, moral duty; and it is against public policy, because it takes from the public a part of the security which they would otherwise have."

It was Judge Ranney who pronounced the opinion, reviewing all the authorities in England and America, in which the rule was settled for Ohio that the transfer of a negotiable promissory note secured by mortgage on real estate to a bona-fide indorsee does not entitle the holder to foreclose the mortgage when it appears that both note and mortgage were obtained by fraud. Perhaps the decision of most far-reaching influence and importance in every-day, practical affairs which he ever delivered was in the case of *Railroad Company versus Keary*. Three years earlier, in another case, the court, then consisting of Chief Justice Hitchcock and Judges Spalding, Caldwell and Ranney, had decided that when an employer placed one person in his employment under the direction of another also in his employment, such employer is liable for injury to the person of the servant placed in the subordinate position caused by the negligence of his superior. But the opinion given by Judge Caldwell was far from elaborate, and was admitted to be "in opposition to two decisions, which were the only authorities mentioned. The chief justice agreed in the results upon grounds different from these stated in Judge Caldwell's opinion, and Judge Spalding presented a long and vigorous dissenting opinion. The decision was not accepted by the legal profession as the final judgment of the court, and three years afterward Judge Ranney, in *Railroad versus Keary*, stated that the court had carefully examined the grounds upon which the previous decision had been placed and had authorized him to declare their unanimous opinion that the rule laid down met their unqualified approval. Judge Ranney said: "No one has the right to put in operation forces calculated to endanger life and property, without placing them under the control of a competent and ever-acting superintending intelligence. Whether he undertakes it or procures another to represent him, the obligation remains the same, and a failure to comply with it in either case imposes the duty of making reparation for any injury that may ensue." Since that decision there has been no occasion for doubt about the law of Ohio on the question then submitted.

Judge Ranney was well qualified to take part in those conflicts as to jurisdiction which occupied so much of the attention of the federal and state courts at various times prior to the close of the civil war. He was impressed by the importance of preserving the dignity and authority of the state, and bold in asserting and maintaining it; but he was too good a lawyer and too just

a man to engage in any unreasonable or unseemly quarrel. This is shown by his action in respect to the water-craft law. Several of the district courts of the United States had assumed the position that in the exercise of their admiralty powers they were authorized to seize upon and take into their possession vessels held by state officers under process issued from the common-law courts. In accordance with that position a steamboat which had been seized under the water-craft law and was in the actual possession of the sheriff, was taken by the marshal and the possession surrendered to him. The supreme court held the sheriff liable for surrendering the vessel. Judge Ranney in announcing the opinion of the court said, "The constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof *we know*, and are glad to acknowledge, are the supreme laws of the land; the mistake consists in supposing that they are the only supreme laws of the land." Then followed a masterly statement of the mutual relations of the federal and state laws, from which he had no hesitation in drawing the conclusion that the principle which the counsel for the sheriff sought to establish was so degrading to the state governments and so utterly destructive of their ability to discharge the important functions for which they were instituted, that they had no warrant in the language, history or purpose of the federal constitution of the United States. This was in 1853 and was soon after cited with approval by the United States court. About two years later the Ohio supreme court took another step in the same direction, and held that the officer making the first seizure retained a lien upon the craft for the benefit of the plaintiff, as against all prior creditors making subsequent seizure, although the craft had been discharged upon bond being given.

"Probably the greatest service which Judge Ranney rendered the state while a member of the supreme court," said Judge Williamson, "was in placing a construction upon important provisions of the constitution, which he had done so much to form. The position was somewhat peculiar, because the court was called upon to construe the old constitution after the new constitution had gone into effect; but he foresaw that the new constitution was to be largely controlled by the application of general principles, and therefore when he found it necessary to determine whether a county subscription to a railroad company was valid he took care to state what he believed to be the true principles of interpretation in such a way that their meaning could not be questioned." Confident that, if adhered to, results of permanent benefit to the people would be achieved, he insisted then, as he insisted very many times afterward, upon giving the utmost force to the cardinal principle, that all political power resides with the people. "Therefore," said Judge Ranney, "the authority of the general assembly is much too broadly stated when it is claimed that all their acts must be regarded as valid which are not specially prohibited by the constitution. The general assembly, like the other departments of government, exercises only delegated authority," and hence "it can not be doubted that any act passed by it not fairly within the scope of legislative power is as clearly void as though expressly prohibited." In many forms he repeated the same statement,—in his speeches, in the constitutional convention and in his judicial decisions. He never lost sight of it and never tired of it. This maxim led him to the conclusion in cases brought against banks incorporated under the law of 1845, in which the supreme court of the United States did not concur, but he did not cease to be guided by the fundamental principle involved in it because its application in a particular instance was denied by a higher authority than his own. In another case he was obliged to dissent from a decision of his own court. During the last session of the legislature under the old constitution many laws had been passed authorizing subscriptions to railroads and other public improvements, but the subscriptions themselves had not been made until after the new constitution had gone into effect; and it was contended that such subscriptions were void, as they certainly would have been if the enabling law had been passed after September 1, 1851. A majority of the supreme court held the subscriptions valid. In dissenting, Judge Ranney said: "With the facts confessed, that if this very law had been copied and passed since the first day of September, 1851, it would have been entirely inconsistent with the constitution, and therefore a nullity, the conclusion, unaccountable to me, is reached that it may still continue in force and be executed after that time quite consistently with that same constitution, although it demonstrably authorizes the same liability to be incurred, the same burdens to be imposed, the same taxes levied and the same corrupt intermingling of public and corporate interests in either case. I will not say that of two laws having the same object, and couched in the same language, the one may be consistent, and the other, at the same time, inconsistent with the same constitution; but I can with truth say that such a result is beyond my comprehension." But although Judge Ranney was once overruled by the supreme court of the United States, and in another instance by the members of his own court, he was usually called upon to express the opinion of the majority upon constitutional questions. He delivered the opinion declaring so much of the act as provided a jury of six men in criminal cases in the probate court unconstitutional. The constitution is silent as

to the number of persons required to form a jury, but it was his judgment that the essential and distinguishing features of a trial by jury, as known at the common law, and generally if not universally adopted in this country, were intended to be preserved, and the benefits secured by the accused in all criminal cases; and that it was beyond the power of the general assembly to impair the right or materially change its character; and that the number of the jurors could not be diminished or a verdict authorized short of the unanimous concurrence of all the jurors. In another case Judge Ranney defined the power of eminent domain as used in the appropriation of lands, traced it to its source as an inseparable incident of sovereignty, fixed the meaning of the word "necessity" as applied to condemnation proceedings, and expressed the final decision of the court,—that property taken for public use, whether with or without the intervention of a corporation, must be paid for at its full value at the time it is taken, without regard to the causes that may have contributed to make up the value.

In another important case Judge Ranney delivered a dissenting opinion, which has since become the basis for general practice throughout the state. The supreme court held that the law allowing tax-payers to ascertain the amount of their credits by deducting bona-fide indebtedness was unconstitutional. In dissenting, Judge Ranney said: "Credits are by the constitution to be taxed, and from the gross amount each individual is by this section entitled to deduct his bona-fide debts and return the balance. The language of the law may not be strictly accurate. The evident meaning, however, is that debts may be deducted from the gross amount of notes, accounts and other choses in action, belonging to the individual. If the balance thus ascertained is not the precise amount and value of the credits of the party against the world, both in legal and popular sense, I confess myself unable to understand the meaning of words or force of language." Speaking of the probable consequences of the construction placed upon the constitution by the majority, he said: "I especially fear its effects upon a large class of merchants and manufacturers, whose course of business compels them to purchase their stock, to a great extent, upon credit, and to extend a like credit to their customers. I feel very sure that it could never have been intended to lay unusual burdens upon a class of men who had contributed so largely to develop the resources and increase the wealth of the state." The general assembly declined to accept the decision of the court and tax-collectors have long since ceased to attempt the enforcement of the decision. The supreme court itself has indirectly recognized the dissenting opinion of Judge Ranney. "It is certainly very fortunate for the state," observes Judge Williamson, "that one of the judges of the supreme court caught the spirit of the constitution, and that its merchants and manufacturers have not had to contend with a tax upon all that their customers owe them, as well as with the moiety system of collecting taxes." Reference is made here to only a few of the opinions rendered by Judge Ranney, but from them some conception may be formed of the great value of his services to the state on the bench, during the transitional period between the old and the new constitution.

It remains to speak briefly of his distinguished labors at the bar. After his resignation from the bench, in 1864, Judge Ranney returned to practice at Cleveland. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that the demand upon his professional services was now greater than ever before and that an attempt to comply with all the requests would be in vain. A selfish regard would have induced him to accept that which was most lucrative, but it was a costly evidence of his ideal devotion to the law that he frequently sacrificed fortune, in the shape of large fees and retainers, to perform some professional service to one in need or distress. Toward the close of his life he gradually withdrew from active practice, but, time and again, he was drawn back to the bar to plead the cause of some old friend or to defend some important principle which had been attacked. The announcement that Judge Ranney was to make an argument was sufficient to fill the court-room with an audience of admiring lawyers, eager to drink from a fountain so deep and pure the inspiring draughts of professional principle and reasoning. In his argument, whether to court or jury, he was a master in observing the due proportions of things. It was not his habit to enter the court-room weighted with books. One or two authorities, in which the principle was clearly enunciated, would usually suffice. His reasoning was masterly and if his premises were admitted it was difficult to avoid his conclusions. He saw the real issue at a glance and did not waste time or tire the listener with a discussion of unimportant or extraneous matters. He possessed a divination, or an instinct of mind, which led him directly, without the medium of reasoning, to the issue involved. He was uniformly courteous to the younger members of the bar. An instance of this is related by W. S. Kerruish, who said: "It fell to my lot at the commencement of my practice to defend an old gentleman for a felony, in which if there were pretty strong symptoms of technical guilt, there were at least the mitigating circumstances of ignorance and inexperience; and my client, becoming at last alive to the gravity of the situation, suggested that I get additional counsel. I selected Judge Ranney. He took the second place at the

trial table and, notwithstanding my protest, firmly but courteously declined to take the first place. He omitted nothing, however, by way of suggestion, but clothed every suggestion with such outward circumstances of deference to his young associate as to carefully conceal any consciousness on his part of my inexperience or his superiority. In this, his art of concealing art seemed to me perfect." Judge Ranney never sought to appear learned, but rather to adapt his argument to the comprehension of the layman. His clear, simple expression was matched by purity of diction. He was not especially communicative or effusive to strangers, but there were old friends among whom he delighted to unbend. The wit, banter, merriment and good-humored personality which then scintillated would long be remembered by the listener. Upon occasion he could use sarcasm with telling effect, but it was a sarcasm without the sting of poison in it. Toward the close of his life he gradually withdrew from the practice of his profession, but time after time, when his strength was failing, he endured the strain and fatigue of a prolonged trial in an effort to secure justice for his clients.

It is perhaps unfortunate that the great powers of Judge Ranney were not called into exercise in a wider field. His name was at one time, when he was in his prime, considered very seriously in connection with a seat upon the bench of the United States supreme court. Had the chief executive of the land made the appointment, which seemed to the bar of the state of Ohio most eminently fitting, there is no doubt that he would not only have added luster to his own fame as a jurist, but would also have enriched the decisions of that supreme tribunal. He was a firm believer in representative government, and no judge could have been more zealous in defending the rights of the people under that government and in guarding against its abuses and evils. Judge Thurman in a public address thus voiced his estimate of the professional character of Judge Ranney: "For forty years I have been a devoted friend of Rufus P. Ranney and I firmly believe that he has been mine. It may, therefore, be permitted to me to say that of all the great lawyers I have ever known, no one ever seemed to me to be so happily constituted for the office of a judge as Rufus P. Ranney. With the quickness of apprehension almost supernatural, with the power of analysis that Pascal might have envied, with an integrity that never for a moment was or could be brought into doubt, with a courage that never permitted him to fear to do what he believed to be right, with an industry that brought all his great qualities into successful operation, and with a mind cultivated beyond the sphere of his profession, he is, in the eyes of those who know him as I know him, a man of whom Ohio is and always will be most justly proud. He is a star in her firmament that will never be blotted out."

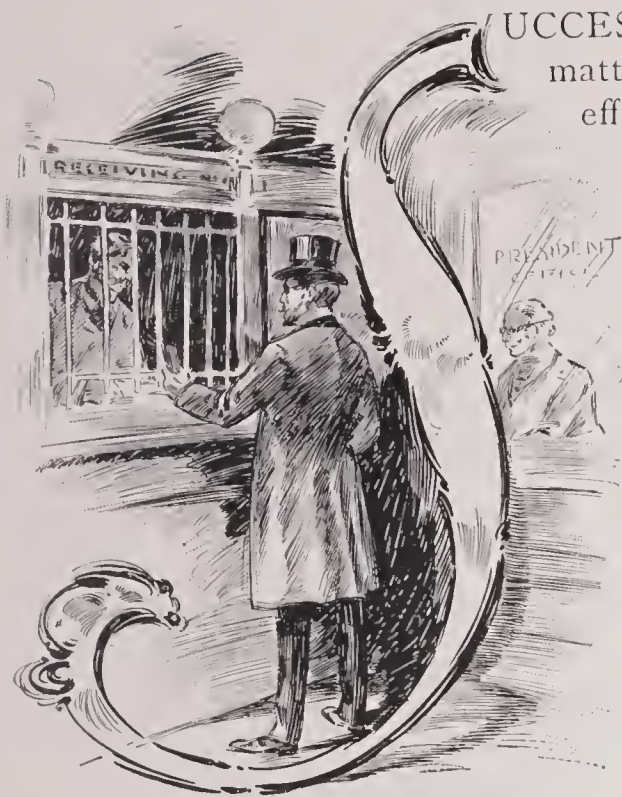
When the Ohio State Bar Association was organized, in the year 1881, he was unanimously elected its president. He was ever interested in the profession which he so greatly honored, and to the young advocate he had only words of encouragement and assistance. He was anxious that young men should have the educational advantages of which he in his youth was deprived, and it was for the double purpose of helping to provide such advantages and to justify the confidence which had been reposed in him by a valued client and friend, that he devoted a large part of his time for several years in placing the Case School of Applied Science, at Cleveland, upon a firm foundation and in giving it adequate buildings and equipment.

In his home life were exhibited the gentler traits of his strong character. His attachment to wife and children was of the tenderest and most enduring quality. The family of Judge Ranney consisted of wife and six children,—four sons and two daughters. Both daughters and two of the sons are dead. The survivors are John R. Ranney, and Charles P. Ranney, both well known residents of Cleveland.

The death of Judge Ranney occurred December 6, 1891. His widow still survives, at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. It is not strange that the death of the eminent jurist and lawyer should have brought mourning and a sense of personal loss to a multitude of people who had profited by his services or who had known him by the unvarying encomiums of his many friends and acquaintances. Judge Ranney was a great advocate, a great lawyer, a great judge and a great man. His memory must ever be held in reverence and loving esteem by a people whose welfare had in him an advocate of unimpeachable integrity and unswerving fidelity.

FRANCIS M. CHURCHMAN,

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.



SUCCESS in any line of occupation, in any avenue of business, is not a matter of spontaneity, but is the legitimate offspring of subjective effort in the proper utilization of the means at hand, the improvement of opportunity and the exercise of the highest functions made possible by the specific ability in any case. In view of this condition the study of biography becomes valuable, and its lessons of practical use. To trace the history of a successful life must ever prove profitable and satisfying indulgence, for the history of the individual is the history of the nation; the history of the nation that of the world. The subject of this memoir was a man to whom was not denied a full measure of success, and he stood forth distinctively as one of the representative and honored citizens of Indiana's capital city, having been most conspicuously identified with banking and financial affairs, which ever have marked bearing upon the industrial activities and the material prosperity of any community, and his acumen and discrimination in the conduct of extensive operations gave him high prestige as a financier and a man of affairs.

The great measure of success which attended the efforts of Mr. Churchman from the time he started out in life on his own responsibility, and without adventitious aid or influence, stands not only to his honor and credit, but also in evidence of his ability, his assiduous application and his absolute singleness of purpose. Such success is worthy of the name, and while he was content to hold entirely aloof from the greater notoriety and the entanglements of public life, his reputation and his labors had an even more potent influence and represented deeper values than they could possibly have done had he dissipated his forces and talents in various directions, instead of holding closely to the one line. He was for many years a most prominent factor in the business circles of Indiana, and within the forty years he was connected with Fletcher's Bank he so guided and guarded its destinies as to gain for it a reputation as one of the most solid and reliable banking institutions in the Union.

He was a man above reproach, and his record was one untarnished by wrong or suspicion of evil. Quiet and unostentatious in manner, he was honored and esteemed by all, his force of character and his sterling manhood making themselves quietly yet strongly felt. From an article published in the Indianapolis Journal at the time of his death, we quote as follows, since the few words indicate to a degree the character of the man: "The death of Mr. Francis M. Churchman, head of the banking house of S. A. Fletcher & Company, will be distinctly felt in business circles of this community. He was the oldest banker in the city, and had been closely identified with its business affairs for the period of a full generation. He was preëminently a banker, and in his long, honorable and successful business career persistently refused to engage in any outside enterprises or any other than a legitimate banking business. It was this strict adherence to his business and to business methods which inspired confidence in him as a banker. He possessed the confidence of the business community in the highest degree, because he deserved it, and he had no desire for any other conspicuousness or applause than that which pertained to the successful management of his own business. He always had the



F. M. Williams

progress and prosperity of the city at heart, and was ever ready to contribute thereto through business channels and by banking methods. His name was a synonym for commercial integrity, and wherever he was known his word was as good as his bond. In this and other traits of character he resembled Stoughton A. Fletcher, Sr., who founded the banking house which bears his name, and who was Mr. Churchman's first preceptor in business, and was his long-time friend."

Francis McClintock Churchman was born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of April, 1833, being of stanch Quaker origin and inheriting, as it would seem, the kindly qualities, the simple manners and the sterling integrity so characteristic of those who have formed the Society of Friends. While he was an infant he was taken by his parents to Wilmington, Delaware, and upon a farm near that place his boyhood days were passed. His educational privileges were, perforce, limited, but his natural alertness of mentality was such that, in the wider school of experience, he

supplemented most effectively his early intellectual discipline, reading widely and judiciously, studying men and affairs, and so broadening his mind and sympathies as to make him a man of acknowledged scholarly attainments and of deep appreciation of the true values of life. His half-brother, the late William H. Churchman, to whom Indiana owes the state institution for the education of the blind, had taken up his residence in Indianapolis in the year 1846, and it was at the request of this brother that Francis M. came here in the following year, a lad of fourteen. He was at first given employment by his brother, who was blind and who consequently needed someone to direct him about, to read to him, etc. It was while he was thus employed



THE CHURCHMAN HOMESTEAD, BEECH GROVE.

that the late Stoughton A. Fletcher, the banker, saw the bright, active lad and tendered him a position as messenger in his bank, which was at that time a small institution. This was about the year 1850, and from that time until his death, representing a period of over forty years, Mr. Churchman was connected with this great banking house, filling all positions, from the lowest to that of the head of the firm, the directing mind of the institution. Through the various stages of his advancement he closely studied the business in every detail, and became thoroughly familiar with it. In 1865 he was admitted to a partnership in the institution that owes so much of its reputation for stability and financial prominence to his close application, unerring judgment and dauntless energy.

Mr. Churchman began his business career with less than a common-school education, but as time passed it became evident that not only was he thoroughly informed in his business, but also that by extensive reading, always of the best literature, he had gained an education and culture of exceptional order. His home contained a well selected library,—one of the largest private libraries in the state. He was closely attentive to business, was methodical and punctual in his habits, and was so absorbed in building up a great financial institution that his whole life was devoted to it, to the almost total exclusion of all recreation. It has been well said of him that "He was a banker without desire to grow rich speedily through speculation; nor did he give ear to those who wanted money in ventures that did not measure strictly to the legitimate standard. His wish was to make money more to give the bank prominence and impregnable strength, than for the gratification of being the master of a fortune. In charity he did not give indiscriminately, nor was he selfish or exacting when one worthy of assistance asked for it. So long as a business man showed a disposition to help himself when in straitened circumstances, then Mr. Churchman's help could be relied upon. In his career he did much good in that way."

His judgment in business matters was remarkable, and was of great value to banks and business men, many of whom solicited it. He was one of the earliest promoters of the Clearing House

Association of Indianapolis and one of the original incorporators of the Crown Hill Cemetery Association. A member of the Hendricks monument commission, it was largely due to his efforts that the handsome bronze statue of Vice-President Thomas A. Hendricks was erected.

The little diversion which Mr. Churchman permitted himself during the long years of his active and useful life, was such rest and recreation as were afforded him at his beautiful country-seat, known as Beech Grove Farm, about six miles southeast of the city. The magnificent demesne comprises two hundred and sixty acres, and its improvements are of the highest order, making an idyllic home and one in which he found rest and solace at all seasons of the year, making daily trips between the city and his home, where he had maintained his abode for a score of years prior to his death, which there occurred on the 23d of August, 1891. There he led a simple life, giving much attention to the breeding of fine horses and cattle, with which the farm was well stocked. He was among the first



SCENE AT BEECH GROVE.

in Indiana to import Jerseys, and took pride in having the finest in the state. He also took great interest in floriculture, and the greenhouses at Beech Grove were of most attractive order, containing many rare varieties of plants.

The home life was one of ideal character, and in recognition of his Quaker origin the simple thee and thou of that sect were customarily used in the family circle. To those nearest and dearest to him he gave the wealth of affection which only a deep nature can give, according them the best possible advantages in business and literature. In manner he was quiet and reserved, but his was a noble character and one that countenanced no wrong,—in thought, word or deed. None has been more worthy of the esteem of his fellow men than Francis M. Churchman.

Never at any time a robust man, Mr. Churchman had been in delicate health for nearly twenty years, and without doubt his life had been prolonged by his daily drives between his place of business and his home. For two years or more prior to his death he had been in seriously failing health. This was observed by his family and by those in daily association with him in the bank; but he could not be prevailed upon to change his manner of life, which had continued in the same routine for so many years. He had suffered for some time from organic disease of the heart, and this was the immediate cause of his death. He passed peacefully from the mortal to the eternal life,—a distinct man and one worthy of perpetual honor in the city and state which he, in turn, honored by his life and labors. The funeral was held from the home, on Tuesday, August, 25, 1891, and those who had known him, and known but to honor, for so long a term of years, were ready to accord all tribute to the sterling worth of the man. The following resolutions were passed by the Indianapolis Clearing House Association, at a meeting held the morning after his death:

WHEREAS, It has pleased a Divine Providence to take from our ranks our honored president and most esteemed and valued member, one whose career is intimately interwoven in the history and growth of the banking interests in this state;

one whose never failing devotion to the business of his choice made him a safe and trusted counselor; one to whose able and untiring efforts is chiefly due the extrication of the commercial and banking interests of the city from the chaos incident to the disastrous speculative period of 1873; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Frank M. Churchman the banking fraternity of this city and state has suffered the loss of one of its most distinguished members; one whose place will not soon be filled.

Resolved, That we deeply mourn the loss of our colleague and friend, and extend to his family our sincere sympathy in this hour of their great bereavement.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be placed upon the records of the Indianapolis Clearing House Association and a copy sent to the family of the deceased.

On the 12th of October, 1859, was solemnized the marriage of Francis M. Churchman to Miss Anna Churchman, an adopted daughter of his brother, William H. Churchman, and a native of Philadelphia. Of their children we make brief mention, as follows: Nettie is the wife of James J. Turner, vice-president and general manager of the Vandalia Railroad, and her home is in St. Louis, Missouri; Anna L. died July 27, 1895; William F., who was born in Indianapolis in the year 1865, was for thirteen years connected with the Fletcher Bank, and, profiting by the precept and example of his honored father, has gained distinct recognition as an able and discriminating financier, as is manifest from the fact that, in July, 1894, he was made cashier of the Capital National Bank, one of the strongest monetary institutions of the state,—a position in which he had demonstrated his ability and judgment and proved himself a worthy representative of his father in the business circles of Indianapolis; Edward M., of the firm of Mullen, Blackledge & Company, of Indianapolis; Frank F., who has charge of the homestead farm; and Henry C. and Robert M. Mrs. Churchman survives and continues to reside at Beech Grove,—a place hallowed by the tender associations of the past.

The preceding paragraphs afford but the briefest outline of the career of one of the strongest characters in the history of the city of Indianapolis; but enough has been said to indicate somewhat the personality of the man, to designate the points of his distinctive individuality, and to show that his was a life so lived as to expand to its full measure of usefulness,—a life worthy of emulation and of all honor.

LEON ABBETT,

JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.



NO COMPENDIUM such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations will serve to offer fit memorial to the life and accomplishments of the honored jurist and statesman whose name appears above,—a man who won maximum distinction in the profession of law, who was remarkable in his breadth of wisdom, in his indomitable perseverance and in his strong individuality; and yet one whose entire life had not one esoteric phase, being as an open and unblemished scroll which will bear the closest scrutiny. True, his were “massive deeds and great,” in one sense, and yet his entire accomplishment but represented the result of the proper utilization of the talent which was his, and the directing of his efforts along those lines where mature judgment and rare discrimination lead the way. There was in Judge Abbett a weight of character, a native sagacity, a far-seeing judgment and a fidelity of purpose which commanded the respect of all. A man of indefatigable energy and fertility of resource, he carved his name deeply upon the records of the great state which he served so faithfully in positions of exalted trust and responsibility. To accord even the most succinct narrative of his well rounded life would transcend the province of this work; and yet the mere outlining of his life and labors cannot fail to be rich in interest and incentive.

Leon Abbett was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, within a hundred yards of the famous old tree under which William Penn made his treaty with the Indians, and which is known in history and tradition as the “Treaty Tree.” The date of his nativity was October 8, 1836, and he was the second son of Ezekiel M. and Sarah M. Abbett. His ancestors in the agnatic line were members of the Society of Friends, and the name of Abbett is found in the records of the Quaker meetings in and near Philadelphia. His great-grandfather was born in England in 1730, and while a young man emigrated to Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. The grandfather, Jonathan Abbett, also followed farming for a time, but eventually entered into a copartnership with his brother, Henry Abbett, and engaged in merchandising. After the death of his partner Jonathan Abbett abandoned his mercantile business and disposed of the farm, which he had still retained, near Philadelphia, having determined to emigrate to the west.

In the year 1820, accompanied by his family, he journeyed overland with Conestoga wagons to Pittsburg, whence he proceeded by flatboat to Fort William, now Carrollton, Kentucky. Upon reaching Kentucky he effected the purchase of thousands of acres of land, his object in removing to the west being to provide for his children, to each of whom he contemplated giving a farm from the broad acres which thus came into his possession. He wisely maintained the idea that every man should have a trade and thus fortify himself in a practical way for the exigencies of life. Every one of his sons was regularly apprenticed at some trade, although two of them eventually became professional men. His eldest son, William McDowell Abbett, was for many years a prominent and effective worker in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church, while Henry I. Abbett entered the legal profession and ultimately became judge of the county court at Warsaw, Gallatin county, Kentucky. His widow then returned to the home of her parents near Philadelphia, being accompanied by Ezekiel M., the father of our subject, and by one other of her children. The former was at that time



Leah Abbott

seventeen years of age, and he was apprenticed at the trade of hatter, to which line of enterprise he afterward devoted his attention.

In the year 1832 Ezekiel M. Abbett was united in marriage to Sarah M. Howell, of Mauricetown, Cumberland county, New Jersey. Her ancestors were of Welsh extraction and came to America in the early colonial days. The Howell family has always been prominent in New Jersey, several representatives having been officers in the war of the Revolution, while Richard Howell was governor of the state from 1793 to 1801. Ezekiel M. and Sarah M. Abbett became the parents of six children: The eldest, a son, died in infancy; the immediate subject of this memoir was their second son; and of the other three sons it may be said that one died in youth, while the other two became successful practitioners of the law. The sixth child was a daughter, who was at the time of her death a teacher in the public schools of Philadelphia.

The father of Judge Abbett, though not in affluent circumstances, gave him the advantages of a liberal education. Pursuing his studies in the public schools of Philadelphia, he graduated at the Central high school, as a member of the class of 1853, being accorded the distinction of delivering the valedictory address. He received at this time the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and subsequently the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by the same institution. Within his first term as governor of New Jersey, Princeton College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws. Immediately after leaving the high school he entered the law office of Hon. John W. Ashmead, who was at that time United States district attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, and upon reaching his majority he was admitted to the Philadelphia bar. After practicing in that city about a year he removed to Hoboken, New Jersey, to the bar of which state, as well as to that of New York, he secured admission. He entered into a professional partnership with William J. A. Fuller, of New York, and this association continued until the death of Mr. Fuller,—extending over a period of thirty years. From the initiation of his practice Judge Abbett displayed marked ability, and was recognized by the courts as a fearless advocate and a man of sound judgment. His care in the preparation of cases, his ability and skill in the examination of witnesses, and his force in presenting the legal points, gave him a prominent place at the bar and brought him into contact with the leading lawyers of the country. In New Jersey the reports show that the Judge was retained in many of the important cases relating to the rights of the public, and he became a recognized authority in all cases involving municipal and constitutional law.

On the 8th of October, 1862, the anniversary of his birth, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Briggs, of Philadelphia, and he signalized this event by transferring his residence to Hoboken, New Jersey, as already noted. Thus he became a resident of this commonwealth and began a public career which proved of inestimable benefit to the state and a source of honor to himself. Judge Abbett was always a staunch and uncompromising Democrat; and it is a matter of record that he has done yeoman service in the interests of his political party. His first appearance in public office was in 1863, when he was appointed corporation attorney of Hoboken; while in the fall of the succeeding year he was elected to represent his district in the legislature, being chosen as his own successor in 1865. During both terms he was chairman of the Democratic assembly caucus, and his judicious leadership greatly aided in guiding the Democratic party and keeping it intact during those troublous years. Soon afterward he removed to Jersey City, and in 1868 and 1869 he was elected to the legislature from the first assembly district, being speaker of the house in 1869 and 1870. In 1869 he was president of the board of education of Jersey City, and in 1872 was a delegate at large to the Democratic national convention, at Baltimore, being chosen as one of the secretaries of that body. He voted for Senator Bayard and against Horace Greeley, whose nomination he opposed as being against the interests of the Democracy. In 1876 he was again a delegate at large to the Democratic national convention, at St. Louis, where he urged the nomination of Governor Parker. He was afterward a delegate at large to each national convention save that which nominated General Hancock. During this period Judge Abbett was also corporation counsel for the city of Bayonne and the town of Union; and he afterward acted in the same capacity for Jersey City until his first nomination for governor, in 1883, and during the confusion that ensued in consequence of the constitutional amendments he saved the city much litigation and expense by his sound judgment and interpretation of the law,—an interpretation which was in every instance upheld by the courts.

In the summer of 1874 Judge Abbett made a brief tour through Europe, and before his return he was nominated to represent Hudson county in the state senate, to which office he was elected by a majority of four thousand nine hundred and forty votes. He served three years in the upper house of the general assembly, and was elected president of the senate in 1877. It was within this session that Mr. McPherson was elected to the United States senate; and as the Democrats had but one

majority on joint ballot the canvass was an unusually spirited one. Mr. Abbett was solicited to become a candidate, but refused all overtures and steadfastly advocated the election of Mr. McPherson. There is no doubt that tact and skill in presiding over the unruly joint meeting averted the calamity that at one time threatened the Democratic majority. After the expiration of his senatorial term he was appointed by Governor McClellan a member of the commission to draft a general charter for the government of cities, and subsequently he was selected by Governor Ludlow as a member of the commission to devise means for a more just mode of taxation.

In 1883 Mr. Abbett was nominated by the Democratic state convention for the office of governor, and, notwithstanding the dissension that existed in the party at the time, he received a majority of six thousand eight hundred and nine votes. Upon retiring from the gubernatorial office he was nominated for United States senator by the Democratic caucus. This was in 1887; and the legislative session of that year will ever be remembered as the stormiest in the history of the state. The Democrats had a majority on joint ballot, but four Democrats united with the Republicans and finally elected Rufus Blodgett, the superintendent of the Long Branch Railroad. Although defeated, Judge Abbett came out of the contest stronger than ever. There was a general feeling that he was entitled to the office and that the will of the people had been thwarted by a few bolters. His popularity increased, and a remarkable evidence of this fact was given at the Democratic state convention in 1889, when he was again nominated for the office of governor, by acclamation, no other name being mentioned. He was elected by the unprecedented majority of fourteen thousand two hundred and fifty-three. His second term of office expired January 21, 1893. In 1892 he was a delegate to the Democratic national convention at Chicago, and made the nominating speech for Grover Cleveland.

Judge Abbett was in public life for more than thirty years, and his statesmanlike and positive views and his aggressive and bold presentation of them had an immense influence upon the state policy of New Jersey. The unequal system of taxation, favorable to railroad corporations and burdensome to private citizens, existing at the time he became a member of the legislature at once attracted his attention. During his career as a legislator his voice was often heard denouncing it and suggesting equalization of taxes; but no change was made. The evil grew until the railroad corporations paid only one-half of one per cent. on the cost of their roads, as reported by themselves, while private property-holders paid two, three and sometimes as high as four per cent. on property officially assessed. Many railroads claimed irrevocable contracts with the state on the subject of taxation, under which a nominal state tax was paid and an exemption claimed from the payment of any local tax. These contracts had been the subject of expensive litigation, and finally the United States supreme court held, in the case of the Morris & Essex Railroad Company, that one existed in that case and was irrevocable. In other words, it was judicially held that the state, through its legislature, had bartered away its sovereign right of taxation for an insignificant consideration.

When Judge Abbett first assumed the duties of governor, in 1884, he immediately announced his determination to grapple with these evils. His inaugural message stated in unmistakable language the policy of his administration. "Our tax laws," he said, "demand immediate and radical reform. They impose unequal burdens. The only true rule in taxation is equality. All property should bear its equal share of the public burdens. This reform, imperatively demanded by the people, can be secured only by legislative action. I am aware of the complications that surround it. Courts have held that certain corporations have contracts which exempt valuable property from taxation. There are other corporations that claim to have contracts on this subject, the validity of which is still undetermined. These alleged contracts must be intelligently and practically dealt with in any legislation which we desire the courts to recognize as constitutional. The evil of bartering away the sovereign rights of the state over taxation is now apparent to all; but it is a doctrine which the courts have recognized, and complete sovereignty can never be restored until all contracts on the subject of taxation are extinguished. Is there a power in the state to resume its lost sovereignty? I believe that such power exists."

Public opinion was aroused by the inaugural, and on the 10th of April, 1884, in the face of bitter opposition, the legislature passed the famous tax laws which imposed a state tax on railroad and other corporations and to some extent equalized the burden of taxation. The credit of this reform is justly due to Judge Abbett. Taxation reform was the platform on which he ran for governor, and he redeemed the promises he then made to the people. The strength and independence of his character were shown forth in bold relief on this occasion, as may be inferred when is taken into consideration the fact that there were ninety-six railroad corporations in the state of New Jersey and that they were of course strongly opposed to this reform. He succeeded, however, and the state revenues were appreciably increased. Since he established this policy, in 1884, no direct state tax

has been imposed on the individual property-holders of the state. It should be stated, however, that the law of 1884 was a compromise measure. Judge Abbett's views comprehended a more radical change. His idea was to put corporate property on a like footing with private property; but the views of the legislators were so variant that in order to insure any relief a compromise was necessary, and this resulted as stated. The members of the state board of assessors, which was created by the new law, were at once appointed by the governor. Their standing in the state was so high that it created a confidence which aided in enforcing a law that completely changed a system that had existed for nearly half a century. The courts upheld the law, and under the act of 1884 the revenue was increased more than one hundred per cent.

With unabated energy the Governor then turned his attention to the companies claiming irrepealable contracts. The Morris & Essex Railroad Company had a contract which had been upheld by the United States supreme court, and this company positively declined to entertain any proposition looking to a surrender of its privilege. Governor Abbett charged the company with making incorrect returns and evading taxes due under the contract. This led to an investigation, and the final outcome was an agreement to submit the whole matter to arbitration,—the result of which was an award of two hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars to the state for back taxes, and an absolute surrender of all claims to an irrepealable contract. Thus the tax policy of Governor Abbett, outlined by him with voice and pen in 1884, was consummated. Through its efforts the railroads now pay a larger portion of the tax, and none of them now claim exemptions under irrepealable contracts.

In addition to these great reforms, many wise amendments to the labor laws were adopted at his suggestion, and a series of acts for the better government of municipalities was passed, as recommended in his messages. In 1889, when nominated for a second term, the ballot-reform question was agitating the country; it was the great question at issue. Governor Abbett felt the necessity of reform in elections and quickly perceived what was needed. In his second inaugural he brushed aside the generalities that surrounded the matter and briefly sketched the outline of a new act incorporating the necessary changes. This was received with satisfaction and afterward became substantially the basis of the ballot-reform law now in force in New Jersey.

Another illustration of Governor Abbett's distinctive statesmanship is given in his recommendation that the money thereafter received from riparian grants and leases should be used to pay the state's indebtedness. The school fund, which formerly received this money, was created with a view of establishing a fund which would eventually relieve the people of a school tax. It is now generally admitted that in order to do this the fund would have to assume such gigantic proportions as to make the scheme an impossible one. The Governor's recommendation aroused a bitter opposition, which gradually subsided when the matter was better understood. The law was passed and the money realized on riparian lands is now used to pay the debts of the state.

Governor Abbett's services have been of inestimable value to New Jersey, and he did much to shape the policy of the state in financial matters. His extensive legal knowledge enabled him to suggest important amendments to the tax laws, and at his recommendation the state board of taxation was created. The many appeals to this board to equalize local assessments very soon proved the necessity of it; for in one county over five million dollars was added to the ratables, while other counties secured the benefit of this increase by a reduction of the state school tax which they paid.

Judge Leon Abbett was a man of extraordinary mental activity. He was exceedingly democratic in his views; and during his incumbency of the gubernatorial office the executive chamber was always open and visitors were cordially greeted. His extensive acquaintance and association with his constituents probably account for the wonderful accuracy with which he gauged public opinion. His untiring labor for the state and his manifest desire to relieve the people from unnecessary burdens made him extremely popular, and although he never held a federal office his fame extended beyond state boundaries to such an extent as to become one of national character. The last office in which he was called upon to serve was that of associate justice of the supreme court of the state,—a position for which he was nominated by Governor Werts, the senate confirming the nomination on the 7th of March, 1893. He had served a little over one year in this dignified office when death's inexorable summons put a summary end to his earthly labors.

His was a full and complete life, and yet it could not but be felt that his usefulness and value would have been still cumulative for many years to come had he been permitted to continue his labors. He died on the 4th day of December, 1894, in the prime of a noble manhood. A state mourned the loss of one of its most able and honored public men; and to those who had known him in person the sense of individual bereavement came in full force; for in his private life he had ever made and retained friends by virtue of his sterling character and his deep appreciation of the true

values of life. He was true in every relation in life, and his memory will be held in lasting reverence by the state for which he labored so earnestly, faithfully and effectively,—the state to which he gave the best years of his life.

Of the immediate family Judge Abbett is survived by Mrs. Andrew J. Abbett and by one daughter and one son. The daughter, whose maiden name was Mary Briggs Abbett, was united in marriage to Andrew J. Post, of Jersey City, in the spring of 1894, and they still reside in that city. Mr. Post is engaged in the iron-contracting business as a member of the firm of Post & McCord, his father having been at the head of the firm prior to his decease. The son, Leon Abbett, who resides in Hoboken, is a lawyer by profession. On April 26, 1892, he was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Hall, of New York city, and they have three sons,—Leon, Jr., Thomas H. and Sheldon.



Geo. H. Schubert

GEORGE H. BABCOCK,

PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY.



HE inevitable law of destiny accords to tireless energy and industry a successful career. The truth of this assertion was abundantly verified in the life of George H. Babcock. Every step in his career was an honorable tribute to industry, humanity and true manhood. He was not a follower of beaten paths,—his courage, his intelligence, his ambition, all had the genuine ring, and he earned his success by legitimate methods and by the proper employment of the distinctive talents which were his. His life was devoted to the best efforts of human endeavor, and while leaving an ineffaceable impress upon the industrial world, the elemental strength of his character was ever shadowed forth in his words and actions, for his life symbolized the most absolute integrity, a broad charity and a deep appreciation of human ethics. To this distinguished inventor, engineer and philanthropist it is eminently consistent that specific reference be made in this compilation, which has to do with those representative American citizens who have conferred honor and dignity upon society and upon the nation.

In the picturesque little hamlet of Unadilla Forks, near Otsego, New York, George Herman Babcock was born on the 17th of June, 1832, being the second son of Asher M. and Mary E. (Stillman) Babcock, representatives of the old Puritan stock of Rhode Island. The father was a well known inventor and mechanic of his time, and was a man of marked ability and honor. Among the number of his many ingenious and successful mechanisms may be mentioned the pin-wheel motion in plaid looms. The mother also was descended from a family of mechanics, her father, Ethan Stillman, having been distinguished as a constructor of ordnance for the government in the war of 1812, while his brother, William Stillman, attained a high reputation as a lock-maker and clock-manufacturer, being also the inventor of a pioneer unpickable bank lock, long before the days of Chubb and Hobbs.

George H. Babcock passed the greater portion of his boyhood in the villages of Homer and Scott, in Cortland county, New York. When he was twelve years of age the family removed to Westerly, Rhode Island, where he received fair educational advantages, subsequently continuing his studies for a year in the institute at De Ruyter, New York. In Westerly he formed the acquaintance of Stephen Wilcox, who afterward became a famous inventor, but who was at that time a capable mechanic of the village. About this time young Babcock, being in impaired health and threatened with consumption, took up the new art of daguerrotyping. Through the healing influence of the fumes of iodine, used in developing the plates, he recovered his health, as he believed, and enjoyed a remarkable amount of physical vigor during the remainder of his long and active career. Photography never lost its fascination with him, and he continued to practice the art, being a distinguished and successful amateur photographer to the time of his death.

In 1851, when but nineteen years of age, Mr. Babcock established the first printing office in that section of the country, and began the publication of the Literary Echo. The paper continued its existence as the Westerly Weekly, but in 1854 he disposed of his interest in the enterprise to resume the art of daguerrotyping. In the same year, in conjunction with his father, he invented the polychromatic printing press. By the use of this invention a sheet could be printed in three colors simultaneously. This machine was placed in the hands of Charles Potter, Jr., of Westerly, Rhode

Island, who assumed the work of manufacturing the presses and placing them upon the market, the agreement being that after all expenses were paid the profits should be divided equally between the manufacturer and the inventors. This contract, which was entered into on the 1st day of January, 1855, proved to be Mr. Potter's initiation into the printing-press business,—a line of industry in which he was eventually to attain a world-wide reputation and great success. He exhibited this press at the fair of the American Institute, in October, 1855, and was awarded a silver medal on the same. After about one year's trial with this machine Mr. Potter found that the press, while it did mechanically all that was promised for it, was so far ahead of the times that it did not prove a financial success, and, by a mutual agreement, the invention passed back to the inventors, who continued the manufacture of the press for several years, losing heavily in the end.

A year or two later Mr. Babcock invented and patented a very unique and useful foot-power job press, which he placed in the hands of Mr. Potter upon the same terms as the former. This press proved a success from the start, and many of the machines were sold; but after several years the success of the enterprise was arrested by a competing builder, who claimed that in some of its features the press was an infringement on his, on which score he threatened Mr. Potter and all his customers with suits for infringement. As Mr. Potter was not so placed financially as to carry on expensive patent suits, as was his opponent, the business became seriously embarrassed, and finally sales nearly ceased. The contract was therefore terminated, and this ended Mr. Babcock's identification with the printing-press business.

The father and son next assumed temporary control of the *Echo*, issuing it as the *Narragansett Weekly*, but after the expiration of about a year they disposed of their newspaper interests, and in 1860 the subject of this memoir removed to Brooklyn, New York, where he passed three years in the office of Thomas D. Stetson, who was a prominent patent-solicitor and controlled a large practice. Mr. Babcock was so proficient and well informed in regard to technical and practical mechanics that the authorities of Cooper Union engaged him to instruct a class in mechanical drawing, and his evenings were accordingly given to this work, greatly to his own advantage, as well as that of his pupils. His reputation as an inventor and draughtsman led to his employment, in 1860, by the Mystic Iron Works, at Mystic, Connecticut, whose shops were taking part in the construction of war vessels for the United States government. Soon afterward his services as chief draughtsman were secured by the Hope Iron Works, of Providence, Rhode Island. For these two establishments he designed the machinery for a number of steam vessels belonging to the merchant-marine and the federal navy. Within this period he also improved the shrapnel shell, employed during the war in engagements at close quarters. In this field of work Mr. Babcock gradually drew near the inventions which were destined to bring him fame and fortune. In 1867 he associated himself with his friend, Mr. Wilcox, under the firm name of Babcock & Wilcox, and they took out a patent for a steam boiler. This boiler was so designed that nothing like a real explosion could occur. They also produced a steam engine, and in 1868 they removed to New York city, in order to push this branch of their business to better advantage. Arrangements were made by the firm for the building of their engines by the Hope Iron Works, of Providence; Morton, Poole & Company, of Wilmington, Delaware; Poole & Hunt, of Baltimore, and the C. & G. Cooper Company, of Mount Vernon, Ohio. This engine possessed some singularly interesting and ingenious elements of novelty and utility.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. GEORGE H. BABCOCK.

In the year 1868 Babcock & Wilcox incorporated the New York Safety Steam Power Company, to build their engines and boilers, and the industry was conducted successfully until the expiration of the Corliss patents, when their engine was withdrawn from the market. Their most celebrated invention was the Babcock & Wilcox safety, or sectional-tubular, steam boiler, based on an earlier invention (1856) of Mr. Wilcox, and so constructed that explosion would not be dangerous. Mr. Babcock so designed the boiler, however, that there could be no possibility of anything in the nature of a genuine

explosion. Establishments of great magnitude were erected at Elizabeth, New Jersey, and at Glasgow, Scotland, for the purpose of manufacturing and extensively introducing this boiler. For over a quarter of a century the firm successfully extended its market in the face of competition, and the introduction of this boiler and others of its class has thus saved to the world lives and property of inestimable value. Through the operations of this commercial and business arrangement the firm acquired both wealth and fame.

Of his wealth Mr. Babcock made a worthy use, fully appreciating the responsibilities and duties which its possession involved. For many years he gave time, thought and money to the promotion of the interests of the Seventh-day Baptists, the religious body with which he identified himself, and also maintained a most zealous concern in the advancement of the cause of education, especially in its practical and technical phases. He made magnificent gifts for educational, religious and missionary purposes, and was the corresponding secretary for the American Sabbath Tract Society, which incumbency he retained for nearly twelve years. During the years from 1874 to 1885 he was superintendent of a Sabbath school in Plainfield, and in this connection made his work famous. His love of Bible study, his blackboard illustrations, and the consequent growth and prosperity of the school during the time of his incumbency, were often and favorably commented upon by the keen observers of the press. He was president of the board of trustees of Alfred University, of Alfred, New York, to which he gave large sums, both during his life and by bequests, and was a non-resident lecturer of Cornell University from 1885 until 1893, in the Sibley College courses in mechanical engineering. His most important papers,—mainly on the scientific principles involved in the generation and use of steam power, and on the best methods of boiler construction—were prepared for the courses last mentioned. His last engagement, abrogated by his death, was for a lecture to be delivered in the spring of 1894. His papers were always well planned, thorough, full of facts and useful knowledge, and polished in expression. His delivery was quiet but impressive, and he held an audience, whether of college students or business men, interested to the end, however long the address. Mr. Babcock was a charter member, and at one time president, of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and was made a life member early in the history of the society.

In the year 1870 Mr. Babcock located in Plainfield, Union county, New Jersey. Here he served efficiently as president of the board of education and also of the public library, and by his zealous and persistent efforts did much to further each of the worthy causes. He did much to improve the city by the erection of fine buildings and through other enterprises. One block of buildings constructed by him is considered the finest architecturally between New York and Philadelphia. His activity and influence in the church of which he was a lifelong member were equally marked and effective, and it owes much to his energy, his ever lively interest and his personal liberality. Mr. Babcock was a man of culture and of broad and varied reading. He was devout and honorable, kindly, affectionate and thoughtful for others; was a loving husband and a kind father. In every relation in life he manifested admirable qualities. The story of his success is short and simple, containing no exciting chapters, but in it lies one of the most valuable secrets of the prosperity which it records, and his private and business life are pregnant with interest and incentive, no matter how lacking in dramatic action,—the record of a noble life, consistent with itself and its possibilities in every instance.

On the 28th of September, 1852, Mr. Babcock was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Adelia Stillman, of Westerly, Rhode Island, and her death occurred on the 20th of May, 1861. On the 25th of September, 1862, was consummated his marriage to Harriet Mandane Clarke, of Plainfield, New Jersey, whose death occurred March 5, 1881. His third marriage took place February 14, 1883, when he was united to Eliza Lua Clarke, of Scott, New York, who bore him two sons, George Luason Babcock, born January 7, 1885; and Herman Edgar Babcock, who was born July 9, 1886, and whose death occurred on the 6th of the succeeding month. Mrs. Babcock entered into eternal rest in 1891, and on the 21st of March, 1893, Mr. Babcock married Miss Eugenia Louise Lewis, of Ashaway, Rhode Island, who, with the one son, George L., survives him.

In conclusion it would be almost tautological to enter into any series of statements as showing Mr. Babcock to have been a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit, for these have been shadowed forth between the lines of even this brief memoir. Strong in his individuality, he never lacked the courage of his convictions, but there were as dominating elements in his personality a lively human sympathy and an abiding charity which, as taken in connection with the sterling honor and integrity of his character, naturally gained to him the respect and confidence of men. The memory of such a life must ever rest as a benediction upon those who touched it.

Mr. Babcock died on the 16th of December, 1893, and his remains were interred in River Bend cemetery, in Westerly, Rhode Island.

AMZI DODD,

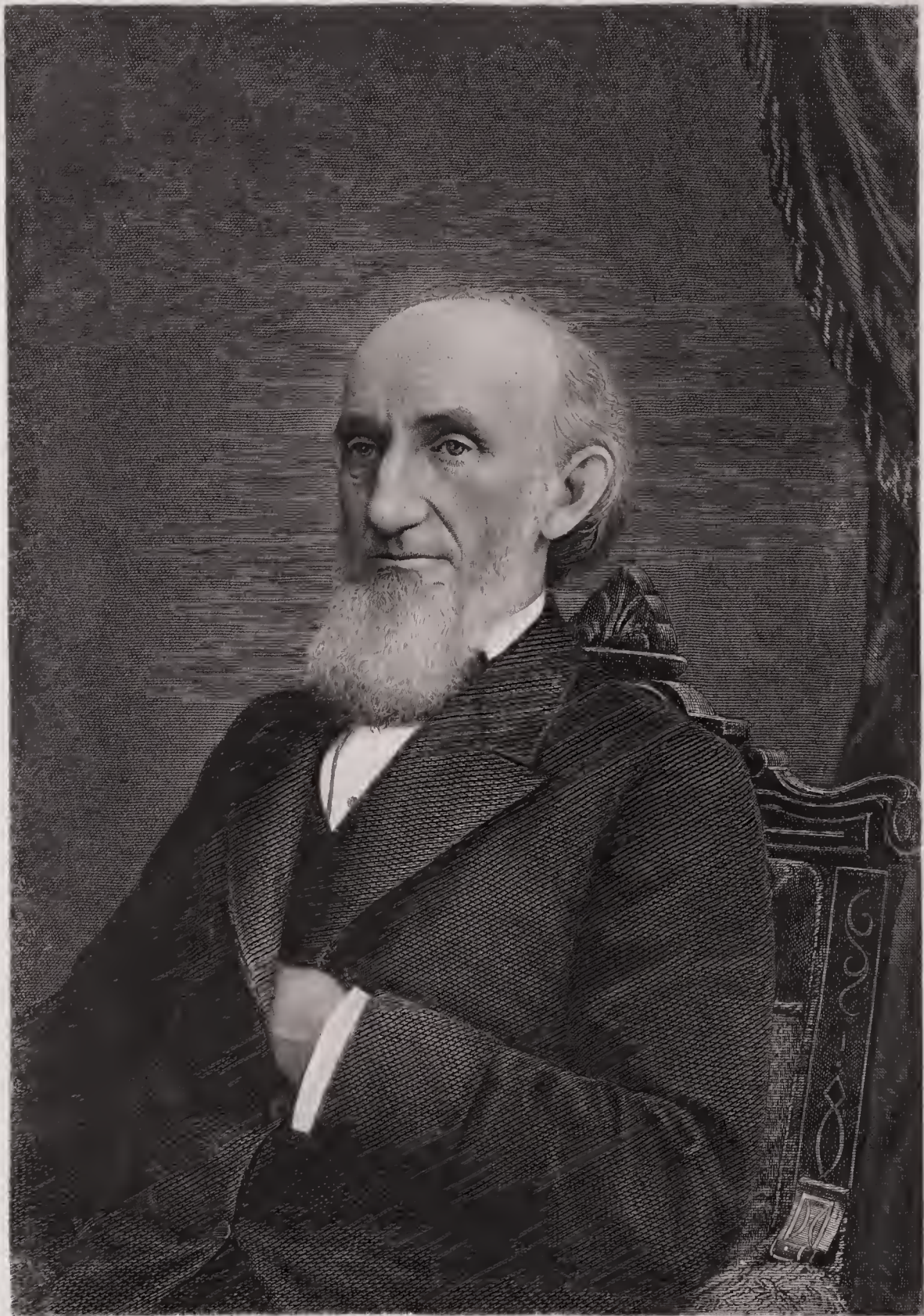
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.



AN ENUMERATION of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves and at the same time have honored the state to which they belonged would be incomplete were there failure to make prominent reference to the one whose name forms the caption of this article. Comparatively few are the men who attain national prominence, but for many years Mr. Dodd has maintained in the higher realms of thought a place that has gained him the recognition of many of America's most honored sons. He holds distinctive precedence as an eminent lawyer and jurist, a scholar of high scientific and literary attainments, a business man of wonderful resource and splendid executive ability. His ancestral history is one of long and honorable connection with the annals of New Jersey. The first of the name to establish a home in the New World was Daniel Dod (for such was the original spelling), an English Puritan, who crossed the water about 1646. His son, Daniel Dodd, was one of the colonists of Branford, Connecticut, who accompanied the Rev. Abraham Pierson to New Jersey in 1666 and founded the city of Newark. An able mathematician, he followed surveying as a profession, and in 1692 was honored by being chosen a member of the colonial general assembly. Through all the years that have since passed the name of Dodd has been so closely interwoven with the development and progress of eastern New Jersey that it forms an ineffaceable part of the history of the state.

General John Dodd, grandfather of Amzi Dodd, spent his entire life in Bloomfield, where he followed surveying, and was also actively engaged as a local magistrate. His services likewise were much in demand as executor, trustee and conveyancer. His son, Dr. Joseph Smith Dodd, was graduated at the College of New Jersey, at Princeton, in 1813, and for more than thirty years was a prominent and successful medical practitioner of Bloomfield, his native town. There is probably no profession in which the kindlier side of man's nature is more greatly developed than the medical, and this characteristic in Dr. Dodd so won him the love and esteem of his fellow citizens that his death, which occurred September 5, 1847, was deeply deplored throughout the community. His wife, Mrs. Maria Dodd, was a daughter of Rev. Stephen Grover, a prominent divine, who for fifty years was pastor of a Presbyterian church in Caldwell.

Amzi Dodd, the second son of Dr. and Maria Dodd, was born March 2, 1823, in what is now the town of Montclair, then a part of Bloomfield, Essex county, New Jersey. He acquired his early education through private instruction in his own home and later attended the Bloomfield Academy, where he attained such proficiency in his studies that in 1839 he successfully and easily passed the entrance examination for admission to the sophomore class of the College of New Jersey, in which his father was graduated twenty-six years before. He completed the full course in 1841, and was graduated with the highest honors awarded to the first in scholarship, being chosen to deliver the Latin salutatory at the commencement exercises in September of that year. Fame and prominence awaited not only Mr. Dodd but many of his classmates as well, including the Rev. Dr. Theodore Cuyler, the eminent Brooklyn divine; Rev. Dr. Duffield, of Princeton College; Francis P. Blair, late of Missouri; John T. Nixon, United States district judge; Edward W. Scudder, of the New Jersey supreme court; Rev. Dr. Potter, of Ohio; Professor A. Alexander Hodge; Hon. Craig Biddle, of Pennsylvania; Hon. Richard Wilde Walker, of Alabama, and others.



Amos Dodd

The professional labors to which Judge Dodd first directed his energies lay along educational lines. For four years he engaged in teaching, principally in Virginia, but he never for a moment relinquished his determination of becoming a lawyer, and during his leisure hours diligently perused those text-books wherein are contained the fundamental principles of jurisprudence. He devoted his vacation periods to acquiring a practical insight into the intricacies of law, through service as a clerk in the office of Miller & Whelpley, prominent legists of Morristown, New Jersey. He was licensed as an attorney and admitted to the New Jersey bar in January, 1848, and soon after became associated in the practice with Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, then one of the most celebrated lawyers of New Jersey, and later holding the position of secretary of state in the cabinet of President Arthur. In 1850 Mr. Dodd withdrew from this firm in order to enter upon the duties of the office of clerk of the common council of Newark, in which capacity he served for three years, at the same time attending to such law business as came his way. His career demonstrates the fact that success and eminence along professional lines are not to be obtained at once; they come as the result of diligent effort, unflagging perseverance, consecutive endeavor and a masterful knowledge of the principles that underlie the science to which one's energies are devoted. As the years passed, Mr. Dodd established a reputation that won him a foremost place among the members of the New Jersey bar. To an understanding of uncommon acuteness and vigor he added a thorough and conscientious preparatory training and exemplified in his practice all the higher elements of the truly great lawyer. His fidelity to the interests of his clients was proverbial; yet he never forgot that he owed a higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. He invariably sought to present his argument in the strong, clear light of common reason and sound logical principles. His tastes and inclinations led him into the practice of civil law, which he found much more congenial than criminal practice. His oratorical powers, however, would have made him very successful in the latter department had his tastes directed his efforts to such legal business.

Early in life Mr. Dodd became well known as a public speaker. His first important public address was a Fourth of July oration delivered in the First Presbyterian church in Newark in 1851. "His panegyric on Washington fell from his tongue deep into every heart, and for many a day the young orator's name was on every lip." His services were also in demand at the commencement exercises at Princeton, where he delivered the annual Cliosophic oration in 1855; also at a later date he pronounced the annual discourse to the Essex County Bible Society, of which he was president. The burning questions of the day concerning slavery were discussed by him in popular meetings with a fervid earnestness and clearness which carried conviction to the minds of his auditors. Opposing the extension of slavery into the territories, he joined the free-soil movement and aided in the organization of the Republican party with its anti-slavery plank. In 1856 he became a Republican nominee for congress in the district composed of Essex and Hudson counties, at a time when the division of the old Whig party gave little, if any, chance of success. In 1860 he was an active and ardent supporter of Mr. Lincoln, and participated zealously in public meetings and measures for the prosecution of the war. In 1863 he was elected by the Republicans to the state legislature and later declined to serve for a second term. With his oratorical powers and his clear insight into the political situation, he might have attained any political honor that he desired, but instead he turned by natural tastes and preference to the law, giving his attention almost exclusively to his constantly growing practice, which became confined chiefly to the duties of a counselor. His comprehensive and accurate knowledge of the law, keen analysis and careful deliberation were widely known and led to his selection for the position of vice-chancellor on the creation of the office, in 1871. Mr. Dodd was appointed by Governor Randolph and, the appointment being immediately confirmed, he entered at once upon his important judicial duties, which engaged his attention until 1875. In that year he resigned, having shed new luster upon the judicial annals of the state. In 1872 he became one of the special justices of the court of errors and appeals, the highest judicial tribunal of New Jersey. In 1878, toward the close of his term, he received the following letter:

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, TRENTON, January 18, 1878.

HON. AMZI DODD, Newark, N. J.

Dear Sir,—Although your term of office as a member of the court of appeals does not expire for several weeks, there are reasons which seem to render it advisable for me to take measures to fill the appointment at an early day. I do not care to make a nomination without first ascertaining the wishes of the party most interested, and I therefore write to say to you that it will afford me peculiar satisfaction to be permitted to nominate you as your own successor. Perhaps you will pardon me for saying that I am led to this determination by the high esteem in which you are held by all who have been thrown in contact with you.

Very truly and respectfully your obedient servant,

GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN.

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